MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 SEPTEMBER 1981

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Indicating a withdrawal by Iraqi forces in the Abadan region, INA cited an Iraqi military spokesman as saying the General Command decided to transfer Iraqi units from the east to the west bank of the Karun River. Up to now, he said, the stationing of Iraqi forces east of the river has been part of the general plan, but Iranian damage to Iraqi-built bridges on the Karun prompted this decision. However, he insisted that Iraq is capable of returning to any position desired when the objectives warrant it. An Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Baghdad radio claimed the downing of two Iranian aircraft in the Abadan region and INA later cited Iranian sources in London as saying that an Iraqi counteroffensive on the Abadan front had left 2,000 Iranians dead. On the other hand, PARS reported that Iranian victories in the Abadan region netted more than 2,000 Iraqi captives, who were to be brought to Tehran gradually, starting the afternoon of 28 September. A later PARS report added that the number of Iraqis killed in Abadan area battles reached 1,000, while 60-70 undamaged Iraqi tanks were captured and another 200 tanks and military vehicles were destroyed. An Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed that two enemy planes were shot down in the Abadan battle zone on 27 September. The radio also mentioned that another Iraqi plane was downed in the same area on 28 September.

Iran

Executions, Comment on Security Situation -- Tehran radio noted that 57 persons arrested for the 27 September clashes with security forces in Tehran had been tried and executed. The radio also mentioned the execution of 53 Mojahedin in Esfahan 27 September. According to another radio report, Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told a Majlis session that the 27 September clashes staged in Tehran were a cooperative effort by the West, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Iranian counterrevolutionaries eager to dispirit the nation in its hour of victory over Iraq at Abadan.

Statement on Election -- In a telephone statement reported by AFP, former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr called on Iranians to boycott the 2 October presidential elections in order "to teach the hangman a lesson," adding that the Iranian Government is playing the U.S. Government's game by destroying the anti-U.S. forces in Iran.

Pakistan

Karachi radio cited a Foreign Ministry spokesman who, commenting on recent reports that the United States has been buying arms from Egypt for delivery to Afghan Muslim rebels, emphasized the Pakistani policy of noninterference in Afghan internal affairs. When asked about President Anwar as-Sadat's statements on this arrangement in a recent NBC television interview, he said that besides having neither direct nor indirect knowledge of it, Pakistan had not been involved.

Egypt

In a speech broadcast by Cairo radio, Vice President Husni Mubarak told the National Democratic Party's second congress at Cairo University that Egypt is determined to make the autonomy negotiations succeed and believes that Israel and Egypt, with U.S. active participation, can agree on the general principles and outlines of full autonomy within the coming months. Mubarak also cautioned Ethiopia regarding the "serious consequences" of allowing itself to be dragged by Libya into a "losing adventure" of supplying forces for acts of subversion in Africa. He warned the members of the Libyan-Ethiopian-PDRY alliance that Egypt considers any hostile act on their part against Sudan, Somalia or Oman to be a "direct aggression" against itself. Elsewhere in his speech Mubarak praised the late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, asserting that An-Nasir had led the first "white revolution" in the Third World and that President as-Sadat has continued and extended his achievements.

Cairo radio also broadcast Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's speech to the congress in which he called for "positive results" in negotiating a settlement for Jerusalem, urging the restoration of all Arab rights in the eastern sector of the city. He reiterated Egypt's view that east Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the West Bank. 'Ali also praised the "positive direction" of Saudi foreign policy, asserting that Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's recent proposals for a Mideast peace settlement "do not differ from what Egypt advocates with regard to the practical moves aimed at an urgent settlement of the Palestinian problem and at bolstering the peace process."

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that 15 people were killed and more than 40 wounded when a car bomb exploded near a Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces security checkpoint in the southern village of az-Zrariyah in the az-Zahrani area. According to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, the explosion was part of the recent chain of explosions staged by Israel and its agents, aimed at rupturing the cohesion between the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese people.

Saudi Arabia

SPA reported that at an At-Ta'if press conference held by visiting French President Francois Mitterrand and Crown Prince Fahd, the prince said that during the Saudi-French talks an understanding had been reached on the important issues while there were naturally differences on some others. In reply to a journalist's question, Mitterrand said the Middle East peace plan proposed last August by Prince Fahd was positive, constructive and of basic importance in taking a first step toward peace in the region. SPA later noted Mitterrand's departure for home from At-Ta'if.

Thatcher Gulf Tour

According to KUNA, a Kuwaiti official criticized British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's stance on the Palestinian question, indicating that she manifested insufficient interest in and knowledge of the issue during her 2-day visit to Kuwait. He admitted, however, that contacts are continuing with the United Kingdom regarding the purchase of weapons. The Kuwaiti daily AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM criticized Thatcher's remarks about the PLO, asserting that she contradicted logic, reality and truth when she described it as a terrorist organization.

Israeli-Jordanian Relations

In an interview with Jerusalem radio, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin said he dreams of the day when peace will reign between Israel and Jordan and Israel will be able to give Jordan a "free port to the Mediterranean" so that both sides can trade and establish a "free confederation." However, Monte Carlo radio later quoted Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah as describing the idea of a Jordanian-Israeli confederation as a "ridiculous proposal and a meaningless idea."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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COMMENTARY ON FRENCH POLICY, MITTERRAND VISIT

Arab League's Klibi Optimistic

NC251135 Paris AFP in English 1117 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Text] Paris, 25 Sep (AFP) -- Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi today said, Francois Mitterrand could "contribute considerably towards solving problems in the Middle East," following a one-hour meeting here with the French president.

Mr Klibi said the discussion was particularly important because of Mr Mitterrand's departure tomorrow for Saudi Arabia, where he will meet with King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd.

"We have always thought that the fact that Mr Mitterrand has the confidence of both parties, that he has good relations with the Israelis and the Arabs, is an advantage that could put France in a position to conduct a more assertive position action," Mr Klibi said.

The Arab League leader said he told Mr Mitterrand that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) "has great hopes for the action France could take in the Middle East."

He added that positions adopted by Mr Mitterrand and French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson -- which include advocating the setting up of a Palestinian state -- have "lifted any ambiguity over the policies that France could conduct with respect to the Middle East ....(These are) policies of peace, policies of friendship aimed at restoring just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

VOP on French Role

JN251737 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Sep 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand is leaving for Saudi Arabia tomorrow on his first state visit to the Middle East since he entered office 4 months ago. Undoubtedly, choosing Saudi Arabia as his first stop in the region reflects the size of the joint economic interests between Saudi Arabia and several Arab states on the one side and France on the other. However, this does not mean that the visit is merely on an economic nature. On the contrary, it is linked with political objectives related to our region in which the Palestinian cause occupies a central position.

President Mitterrand will face nothing in the Middle East but the Palestinian cause. he will further discover that this cause is the key to all the other issues, both domestic and international and Arab ones. It is clear that France enjoys a distinguished position in our Arab world and is looked upon by the Arabs as an influential power that can contribute to the achievement of a durable and just settlement in the Middle East, stemming from the fact that it is indeed an influential memberstate both in the European community and in the international forum.

The Arabs' view of France has been positively influenced by its numerous stands in favor of the Palestinian cause. The latest of these was at the 'Arafat-Cheysson meeting in Beirut. This positive view needs to be backed by more French stands in favor of the Palestinian cause so the Arabs may then consider France as a reliable friend capable of adopting a constant pro-Arab rights policy. Undoubtedly, the stand on the PLO has become the basic criteria for assessing the French role, its positiveness and the Arabs' sympathy with it. This applies equally to the stand on Camp David, particularly since France has frequently voiced its support for it. The French stand on Camp David is politically important to assess France's role, simply because it is not acceptable that France supports Camp David at a time when three quarters of the world do not support it.

Once again we say that the French president will find nothing in our region but the Palestinian cause. He will also find out that the sole Arab concern is for the Palestinian cause. Furthermore, he will realize that the Palestinian key alone is capable of opening all gates for French interests in our region in the long run.

We hope that these facts will make socialist France adopt more specific and more positive stands on our just cause and our people's legitimate rights.

PLO Against Policy

NC270733 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Reaction to the recent press conference of French President Mitterrand continues to come from Arab quarters. PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has called on the Arab League member states to stand firmly against the French policy in the Middle East.

In a press statement he issued in Damascus yesterday in reaction to President Mitterrand's remarks at his press conference, Abu Mayzar said that the French president's policy on the Middle East crisis is still unconstructive and is based on protecting the aggression and the aggressors and runs counter to international law, the UN resolutions and Charter and France's international and moral commitments.

He added that the security of Israel, the aggressor, which has been occupying the Palestinian land since 1948 and 1967 is not the crux of the Middle East problem; the liquidation of the Israeli aggression and the enabling of the Palestinian people to exercise their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their own independent state is the crux of the Middle East problem.

Abu Mayzar added: While we affirm our denunciation of President Mitterrand's policy toward our issue which he announced in Paris, we call for the correction of this policy to become consistent with the principles of the UN Charter, because this alone can make the French policy in particular and the Eruopean policy in general a constructive one in the Middle East. We also call on the Arab League member states to stand firmly against this policy, because it acquires particular seriousness when it (?comes) after the signing of the strategic military alliance agreement between the United States and Israel.

PLO'S QADDUMI COMMENTS ON GROMYKO-SHAMIR MEETING

NC270747 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Commenting on the meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and enemy Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, who is currently attending the 36th session of the UN General Assembly, has stated: We are confident that during the meting our Soviet friends affirmed the need to recognize the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state, as well as the need for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Meanwhile, the Soviet UN delegate, who attended the meeting, spoke about the reasons which prompted Gromyko to meet Shamir. He said: We feel that it is necessary to put pressure on Israel and to inform it of our firm stand that it should recognize Arab rights, above all the Palestinian people's rights, and that it should put a halt to its aggressive policy.

VOP VIEWS U.S. POSITION ON JORDAN, WEST BANK

JN271734 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1545 GMT 27 Sep 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] Political observers yesterday showed special interest in the clarifications issued by the U.S. State Department concerning the status of the West Bank. The observers noted that the State Department statement came out following the important meeting which took place the day before yesterday between USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and the subsequent meeting between Gromyko and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. It also came out while Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan was meeting with U.S. Vice President George Bush in the White House and prior to King Husayn's visit to the United States 2-4 November. The observers' attention was particularly drawn to the following three points:

First, the United States has categorically confirmed for the first time that it does not recognize Jordan's annexation of the West Bank in 1950 and that the Jordanian boundaries which the United States recognizes are those defined by the British in 1921 for the amirate of Transjordan. Jordan's western boundary is, approximately, the line stretching along the Jordan River to the Gulf of Aqaba. The observers, therefore, conclude that Jordan's role in any future peace negotiations will not be concerned with the question of returning the West Bank to Jordanian sovereignty. The observers also consider As-Sadat's statements yesterday about the need to establish federal or confederal ties between a future Palestinian state and Jordan as a further clarification of the U.S. position concerning the status of the West Bank in relation to Jordan.

Second, to countermand the ruling Likud Party's statements and positions, which all assert that sovereignty over the West Bank reverts to Israel and that the final destiny of the West Bank has already been decided by the Likud, the U.S. Administration has announced that the issue of sovereignty over the West Bank must be negotiated by the concerned parties within the Camp David framework. Under the Camp David accords, the final destiny of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip must be jointly decided by the four concerned parties: namely, the so-called Autonomy Council, Israel, Egypt and Jordan.

The observers conclude from the two points above that according to the U.S. viewpoint, the West Bank is not part of Jordan and the sovereignty over it is also not Israeli. The U.S. State Department statement confirmed the negative status of the West Bank but did not refer to its positive status. This has prompted the observers to ask: to who, then, does the West Bank belong?

Third, the U.S. State Department statement was categorical on the issue of the alternative Palestininan homeland, particularly Sharon's recent statements in which he said that Jordan is the Palestinian state. The statements of the Israeli officials have given great anxiety to the Jordanian Government, which clearly expressed fear that the U.S. Administration might be considering Israel's point of view, which wants to solve the Palestine question at Jordan's expense. The State Department clarification in this regard is: If the United States is asked whether it accepts the idea of Jordan becoming a Palestinian state, the reply will be no, we are not seeking to achieve this.

Some observers have made are following comment on this U.S. clarification: After several Israeli and U.S. attempts to blackmail Jordan and scaring it about solving the Palestine question at its expense, it has become easy for the U.S. Administration to announce that it does not recognize Jordan's annexation of the West Bank. Are these clarifications or an attempt to add more ambiguity to the situation? This is the gist of U.S. policy on this particular point. This is just a question we are posing vis-a-vis the ambiguous U.S. State Department clarifications on the status of the West Bank.

FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH ON EASTERN FRONT FORMATION

JN281435 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Sep 81

[FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH 28 September editorial: "For the Establishment of the Eastern Front"]

[Excerpts] When the United States signed the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel, the Arabs reacted and the same old scenario was repeated. The press, radio stations, journalists and commentators discovered a new subject to talk about.

In the wake of As-Sadat's visit [to Jerusalem] the Arabs met and agreed on Arab solidarity and, prior to that, on steadfastness and confrontation. However, solidarity among the Arab states did not last long. As for steadfastness, it continued to mark time, once as an alternative to solidarity and once as an incentive for it. This steadfastness has also sometimes been inactive due to differences among its partners. It is true that Israel does not want the Pan-Arab Charter, signed by Iraq and Syria following As-Sadat's visit to the Knesset in 1977, to exist. It is also true that Israel does not want military and political coordination to materialize between Syria and Jordan and among Iraq and Jordan, the military forces of the eastern front. It is also true that Israel is hunting down the Palestinian revolution to liquidate it politically and militarily in Lebanon and occupied Palestine. All this is known to all and threatens all.

Despite the passage of 14 years after the June aggression and the occupation of the Golan, the West Bank and Sinai, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and the Palestinian revolution has been unable to form a united Arab front against Israel, although geopolitics dictate the priority establishment of such a front which should be given priority over other major or minor ideological, political or economic considerations. The peoples of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Palestine believe that deliverance lies in the establishment of such a military and political front to protect their existence and repulse the advancing Israeli expansion. It is quite obvious that the alternatives being put forth to this front have not been able to make any qualitative accomplishment toward taking a firm stand on Israel's expansionist designs.

The Zionist threat facing the Arabs has gone beyond Palestine and has deeply infiltrated the countries of the Arab east. The inevitability of taking up arms and resisting applies to the Jordanian, Syrian, Iraqi and Lebanese peoples as much as it applies to the Palestinian people. We believe that practical reality supports the soundness of this fact which is still far from being implemented by the Arabs on the eastern front.

There is an Arab need for a new Arab perception of the conflict against Zionism. There is a need for a new program to deal with the Zionist defiance based on the priority nature of the conflict against Zionism and the secondary nature of any other conflict, whether between social theories or between right and left or between reactionaries and progressivists or that most dangerous conflict based on the policy of Arab axes. All these conflicts are at the expense of that against Zionism and Israel.

Concluding its editorial, FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH says: Our Palestinian military and political experience behooves us to give first priority to this new program to confront Zionism and put it above all negative influences, both internal and externa. Thus, we put all our weight behind the formation of an Arab front comprising Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and the Palestinian revolution based on a Pan-Arab Charter, a charter not based on the formation of axes or the ideological divisions of these Arab regimes but on a broad front of Arab solidarity that considers the conflict against Zionism on both the defensive and offensive levels as its pan-Arab program for its national and pan-Arab existence. Without the formation of such a front, the vicious circle will continue and the Arab policy will remain (?unchanged).

VOP CRITICIZES THATCHER'S REMARKS, BLAMES ARABS

JN281642 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1555 GMT 28 Sep 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] Mrs Margaret Thatcher has humiliated the Arabs in their own house in a provocative and racist manner, unprecedented except for the means pursued by the British generals when they ruled our country directly.

Thatcher came to the Arab Gulf to drink water from its well and to throw stones in this well, or even worse than that. Why? We have no right to blame Mrs Thatcher. She is not an Arab sister and she does not recognize the central issue, the Palestine issue. How could we blame Thatcher since she is the descendant of Balfour, who is very well-known in our history. But it is our right to blame those who polished their tiles for Mrs Thatcher to walk on and who set up their microphones so that she could insult Palestine, its revolutionaries and martyrs, as if she were in Tel Aviv having a friendly discussion with Begin against the Palestinians and their rights and cause.

We do not want to discuss the trivial remarks her majesty's prime minister made, particularly those in which she accused the PLO of terrorism. What can we expect from the Brit'sh prime minister? But, why can not we as Arabs discuss something more important and what we mean here is that shameful phenomenon which says that any European or American leader can humiliate the Arabs in their own house and they say to him: thank you. He can exploit their oil and humiliate their dignity and he can even make statements in favor of their enemy, and still they say to him: thank you. Why? Is there any other reason except that we are experiencing a bad Arab time? We are sorry if we have failed to understand how bad this bad time is.

VOP ON ISRAELI CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS IN LEBANON

JC251614 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Text] The Beirut daily AS-SAFIR reports from southern Lebanon this morning that Israeli forces violated the cease-fire very early this morning. The Israelis aimed heavy machinegun fire at the gorges of Kafr Hamam and Kafr Shuba in the area controlled by the Norwegian contingent of United Nations forces.

Machinegun fire came from Israeli positions in the hills overlooking Kafr Shuba -- the occupied Lebanese border strip -- and lasted for about 10 minutes. No casualties were reported. Israeli forces also fired heavy machinegun rounds at the village of Birkat Shab'a for about 15 minutes.

Previously, between 1000 and 1200 yesterday, Israeli vehicles were sighted patrolling the areas near Shab'a and Kafr Shuba on the foothills of Mount Hermon in southern Lebanon.

Other reports from the occupied border strip indicated that several of Haddad's militiamen forced their way into a house near the Gorge of Tabnin yesterday and established a headquarters in it.

'ARAFAT TO VISIT JAPAN 12 OCT; TO MEET SUZUKI

JN281442 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Tokyo, 28 Sep (INA) -- The INA correspondent in the Japanese capital has learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will pay a 4-day official visit to Japan on 12 October. Toshio Kimura, head of the parliamentary league for the friendship with the Palestinian people, told the INA correspondent that 'Arafat's itinerary will be officially announced tomorrow. He added that the Palestinian leader will meet with Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda, who previously welcomed the visit and announced readiness to exchange views on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East.

It is to be recalled that the Japanese parliamentary league is organizing 'Arafat's visit to Japan. The INA correspondent quoted Fathi "Abd al-Hamid, director of the PLO office in Tokyo, as saying that the PLO's official announcement on the visit will come later.

VOP REPORTS FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

JN280745 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee last night held a meeting, which continued until very late, during which it reviewed recent developments, especially the Zionist enemy's increased military activities in southern Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that the committee also discussed and reviewed the results of committee member visits, activities and meetings, especially the brother commander in chief's participation in the fifth summit of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and his visit to Algeria, as well as the meetings and measures of the Higher Coordination Committee.

The committee also discussed conditions in the occupied territory and the attempts by the Zionist enemy and the U.S.-Israeli-as-Sadat tripartite alliance to impose the autonomy conspiracy on our people and our masses' heroic resistance to this conspiracy.

It was decided to convene a meeting of the Revolutionary Council next week.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING 28 SEP

JN281542 (Clandestine) Voice of Palescine in Arabic 1505 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] The Palestinian revolution's expanded Military Council met at noon today under Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], who reviewed the results of the Palestinian-Israeli war and the U.S.-Israeli statements prior to the war.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also talked about the Steadfastness and Confrontation Fronts meetings and praised its resolutions. He talked about the meetings and decisions of the higher Coordination Committee. He gave his recommendations to confront the Israeli-U.S. schemes in light of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance.

BAHRAIN

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON GCC, AWACS DEAL

LD2911309 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 25 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has said that at the present time there is no possibility of any country--other than the six current members--joining the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. In a statement to AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, he said that it is premature to talk about the possibility of a new country joining the GCC, although the door to membership may be reopened in the future.

Commenting on the AWACS deal between the United States and Saudi Arabia, the foreign minister said he could not predict what would happen if the United States did not deliver the AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia. He said that the AWACS are an important defensive weapon for Saudi Arabia and the region in general and that it would be a setback for everyone if the deal was cancelled. Here we it would place the entire region in a situation in which matters would have to be reassessed.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak said: The matter is up to Saudi Arabia, for it must make the decision. I cannot predict what will happen if the deal is cancelled.

KUWAIT

THATCHER MEETS WITH AMIR, MINISTERS ON VISIT

Thatcher's Press Conference

LD2717052 Kuwait KUNA in English 1500 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Sep (KUNA) -- "This is the first visit of a British premier in office to Kuwait, and I am very happy to repair the previous omissions in that respect," British Premier Margaret Thatcher told a press conference this afternoon.

"It so happened that this is not my own first. I came here in 1973 as secretary of state for education and science and had a most interesting tour and was impressed with everything I saw," she added.

The British premier arrived here Sunday morning from Bahrain on the second stage of a tour to reassert Britain's interest in the region and discuss Middle East developments.

"I am even more impressed now with the immense progress that appears to have been made since that time." Mrs. Thatcher, who was received by his highness the amir earlier in the day, described the meeting as a happy one. We spoke mainly about foreign affairs and referred to the Gulf Cooperation Council, the great Middle Eastern Arab-Israeli [as received] subjects, which I know dominate thoughts in this area. We also discussed a little bit about his own (the amir's) [word indistinct] the Balkan states, the visiting prime minister told the press conference.

We were then fortunate to have a long meeting with the prime minister, accompanied by the minister of commerce and industry and also the minister of health, Mrs Thatcher said. We referred there to the same foreign affairs matters about which I am certain you will question me, and then, of course, to the Iran-Iraq war.

We also turned to a number of bilateral matters where we noticed that Britain was in fact third highest exporter to Kuwait. Japan is ahead of us, and I think the United States, but after that our goods are greater in number and value, Mrs Thatcher [word indistinct].

"In fact, I am anxious we should increase our trade with Kuwait and I think we are poised to do so partly because of the exchange rate which now acts in our favor and also because of the fact that we are highly competive on price, good on delivery time and excellent on value."

"It is wonderful that one finds here as in Bahrain such a ready response, and I hope we should do even more trade with Kuwait, the British premier said, adding "We think there are a lot of opportunities to be picked up now."

I have been very impressed by the warm and friendly reception, and we hope friendship with Kuwait may grow and result in increasing trade links and increasing cooperation in every respect.

Asked if an agreement was reached with Saudi Arabia on the sale of Nimrod airplanes, Mrs Thatcher said Crown Prince Fahd came to Britain a few days ago. We were happy with his visit and delighted to receive him and talk about things which concern both Saudi Arabia and Great Britain.

We still hope and believe that the AWACS sale with the United States will go through, Mrs Thatcher told the press conference. We are not competing with that. Saudi Arabia wishes to purchase AWACS for the defence of her country. We hope that AWACS sale will go through. If it does not, then of course, Nimrods, we hope, will be considered. But first the AWACS, she added.

Asked why Britain would not play a greater part within the European community towards a Middle East settlement, including recognition of the PLO, Mrs Thatcher said the British Government approach to the Middle East problem was set out a great deal in the Venice Declaration.

With regard to the British Government attitude towards the PLO, Mrs Thatcher said, "We do not recognize organizations but only countries."

The object of the Venice Declaration was so that each side of the dispute will recognize the rights of the other.

I have said quite frequently it is not possible to ask something to yourself namely self-determination and to live within secure boundaries unless you are prepared to grant the same rights to others.

Defense Minister's Statement

LD280852 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Sep (KUNA) -- Following the announcement of her country's readiness to supply the Gulf countries with their weapons needs and military equipment in order to consolidate their defense capability, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher left Kuwait today after a short official visit, heading for Australia.

At the airport she was seen off by the crown prince and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. He had talks with her on the Middle East issue, the Palestinian problem, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the means to consolidate economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim as-Sabah, in a statement after a meeting with the British guest last night, said that both sides have agreed to exchange visits of military delegations [to enable the Kuwaiti side] to see the latest technological advances in British military industry in order to chose the best for the Kuwaiti Army.

Foreign Minister's Statement

LD281300 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for Cabinet affairs and acting minister of foreign affairs, made the following statement after the visit by Mrs Thatcher, prime minister of the United Kingdom, to Kuwait 27-28 September 1981:

On the invitation of His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah Mrs Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of the United Kingdom, paid an official visit to the state of Kuwait 27-28 September 1981. During this visit Mrs Thatcher met with His Highness Amir Shaykh Jabir Ahmad as-Sabah. Official talks also took place between his highness and crown prince and prime minister and Mrs Thatcher which dealt with bilateral relations and the basic issue of mutual interest.

In their discussion of bilateral relations, both parties noted with satisfaction the development of these relations, and they reviewed the means of consolidating them in various spheres, including science and technoglogy. Among the most eminent of the basic issues discussed was the Middle East problem, where there was a mutual conviction concerning the rapid achievement of a just and lasting solution for this problem. The Kuwaiti side stressed the need for Israel withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, respect for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination without any outside pressure of intervention, its participation on an equal footing in all efforts exerted for the achievement of just and lasting peace in the Middle East area, and the importance of recognizing the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

His highness the crown prince and prime minister and Mrs Thatcher also noted in this respect the possibility and importance of the European Community's playing a distinguished role in order to solve the Middle East problem. They also discussed the developments of the situation in the Gulf area and stressed the need for consolidating efforts to strengthen cooperation among the countries of this area to enable them to exercise their natural role in maintaining peace and security in the area separate from all forms of foreign intervention and international conflict.

His highness the crown prince and prime minister and Mrs Thatcher expressed their satisfaction with the results of this visit and stressed the need for continuing contacts between the two countries in consolidation of relations between them in various spheres.

MINISTER CRITICIZES UK STANCE ON PALESTINE

LD281410 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1329 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Sep (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, has criticized the British stance vis-a-vis the Palestinian question. He stated that Britain needs to pay more attention to the Palestinian question.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher today concluded her 2-day official visit to Kuwait during which she had talks with senior Kuwaiti officials.

The Kuwait official stated that during the talks his country very frankly put forward its viewpoint regarding the Palestinian question. He added: "During her meetings, Mrs Thatcher referred to the Venice Declaration as a basis for European action. However, the Arabs want a positive step to crystallize some of the points in the aforementioned declaration, because there appears to be coolness toward crystallizing it."

He went on to say: "Britain has a moral obligation, because it was the mandatory power that withdrew from Palestine before the Zionist entity was established, that is, if moral obligation has any weight in international politics." He expressed his hope that Britain would be more knowledgeable about the issue and more interested in finding a just solution for it.

Regarding the Arab stance vis-a-vis the political initiatives being put forward to settle the Middle East crisis, the Kuwait minister stated: "The major powers are all agreed on preserving Israel. However, there is also world agreement that a Palestinian state should be established. But with the exception of Arab and friendly nonaligned states -- who agree that it should be established on Palestinian soil -- there is no agreement as to where the Palestinian state should be established."

He continued: "The initiative of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz is the first attempt to crystallize an Arab trend, and in our view, full crystallization will not come about except through Arab unanimity."

The Kuwaiti minister of state pointed out that his country is awaiting the Soviet Union's interpretations of a meeting held by the Soviet foreign minister with his Israeli counterpart in New York last weekend.

Regarding whether Kuwait will be sending a military delegation to Britain to negotiate the purchase of weapons, he stated: "Contacts regarding this matter are continuing both with the United Kingdom and with others."

SAUDI ARABIA

KING KHALID BEGINS TALKS WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT

LD271043 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0935 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 27 Sep (SPA) -- Saudi-French talks began at 1130 this morning in the Royal Palace in At-Ta'if. The talks are chaired by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and by President Francois Mitterrand of France, who is currently visiting the kingdom.

The talks concern Saudi-French relations, ways of strengthening cooperation between the two countries in all fields, and Arab and international issues of common interest, foremost of which is the Palestine question and the problem of the Middle East.

This meeting is a continuation of the Saudi-French summit encounters which took place during the recent visit of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to France, in order to consolidate the ties of friendship between the two countries.

Sa'ud Comments On Talks

LD271444 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has stated that the Saudi-French talks that began this morning under the chairmanship of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and French President Francois Mitterrand covered bilateral relations as well as current international issues of common interest.

In a statement to SPA after the talks, which lasted about 2 and 1/2 hours, Prince Sa'ud said that views were identical on numerous issues and were close, though not identical, on all matters. He also said that Mitterrand's stand on the Palestine question has now become clear.

Prince Sa'ud expressed his hope that King Khalid and President Mitterrand will have an opportunity to consult and draw their views closer with regard to this Islamic issue.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

LD270940 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0906 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 27 Sep (SPA) -- The Saudi and French sides held bilateral meetings this morning in the At-Ta'if conference hall to discuss ways of consolidating and strengthening cooperation between the two friendly countries in all fields: political, trade, cultural and technological.

At 0900 today, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, met Mr Claude Cheysson, French minister for external relations, in the presence of Jamil al-Hujaylan, Saudi ambassador to France. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that he and his French counterpart had discussed the international situation in general, Saudi-French cooperation and issues of interest to the two countries, especially the Middle East problem and Arab-French cooperation.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told SPA after the meeting, which lasted about 2 hours, that his talks with the French minister were comprehensive and useful, meeting the interests of the two friendly countries and peoples.

Deputy Premier Meets Mitterrand

LD280154 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] His Royal Highness Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy prime minister, met at the conferences palace in At-Ta'if this evening with French President Francois Mitterrand, who is currently visiting the Kingdom. This meeting comes as a continuation of the Saudi-French discussions which started this morning.

Joint Press Conference Held

LD281512 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1008 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 28 Sep (SPA) -- French President Francois Mitterrand and Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn al-'Aziz held a press conference at the Palace of Conferences in At-Ta'if at 1000 this morning.

The conference was attended by the large French information delegation accompanying the French president on his visit to the Kingdom, as well as representatives of the Saudi and international news agencies and television networks.

At the beginning of the press conference, President Mitterrand delivered a speech praising Saudi-French relations and stressing the importance of cooperation between the two friendly countries in the political, economic and other fields. He stressed the importance of the Kingdom's role in Arab and international circles, and the position it occupies in international circles.

President Mitterrand also stressed the importance of his current visit to the Kingdom. He said this is his first official visit to the Kingdom -- this "indicates our interest in the development of Saudi-French relations, and we hope the visit will enable us to study and discuss these relations in complete frankness and clarity."

Mitterrand said the Saudi-French talks dealt with the bolstering and development of his country's relations with the Kingdom, as well as international matters of common interest -- foremost of which are the situation in the Middle East, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the developments in Africa and Poland, and the North-South dialogue. During our talks, he said, we have tried to coordinate our views on these matters.

The French president said his talks yesterday with King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz covered basic matters pertaining to relations between the two countries, while his talks last night with Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz covered basic and sensitive questions. He added that the delegation accompanying him held a series of bilateral meetings yesterday morning with a number of Saudi ministers, to discuss cooperation between the two countries in all fields. Mitterrand pointed out that agreement has been reached on an exchange of visits between officials of the two countries, to continue discussions on various aspects of cooperation with a view to bolstering and developing them for the good of the two friendly peoples and countries.

President Mitterrand said the views of the two countries cannot be expected to be identical and similar on all matters, but thanks to the friendship which has developed and crystalized between the two countries and the mutual trust that exists between them, we will be able to exchange views in the future on international problems, with a view to establishing peace throughout the world.

In conclusion, President Mitterrand expressed his gratitude and admiration for King Khalid and Prince Fahd, and his appreciation of the hospitality and welcome accorded to him. He said: I feel I am in my second country, and I have been pleased to acquaint myself with the civilization and history of this great country. This will consolidate relations between our two countries and ensure their continued progress in an atmosphere of mutual trust on both sides.

After President Mitterrand ended his statement, Prince Fahd made a speech. He welcomed the French president and said: In the name of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the Saudi people, I express our appreciation to the French president for paying this important visit to the Kingdom. This is not strange, in view of the deep ties of friendship which bind the Kingdom and France together.

He affirmed the Kingdom will continue with its good relations with France, and there will be contacts between the Saudi and French sides to discuss Arab and world issues and questions pertaining to the free world. Views will also be exchanged on issues which are of a common interest to both countries, he said.

Prince Fahd described the Saudi-French talks, which took place during the visit, as having been on a good level and constructive, covering ways of bolstering and developing relations between the two countries, as well as current Arab and international questions headed by the questions of the Middle East, Palestine and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Prince Fahd expressed his pleasure and satisfaction for the understanding shown by the French president for the Kingdom's policy on Arab, international and world questions, since the Saudi policy serves the interests of the whole world.

Prince Fahd said the Kingdom has received a positive response from the French people and their leaders in respect of all its needs in the various military and civilian fields.

Prince Fahd said: During the talks, we reached an understanding on all the important matters with the exception of some partial issues. Naturally, he said, there were a few issues on which the views of both sides differed. He added there will be bilateral meetings and contacts in the future to exchange views on some matters of common interest.

Prince Fahd expressed his hope that Mitterrand's visit will mark the beginning of other visits which will serve the interests of the two friendly countries and peoples.

After Prince Fahd concluded his statement, the journalists put their questions to President Mitterrand and Prince Fahd, who kindly answered all the questions on Arab, Islamic and international current issues as well as the results of the Saudi-French talks during the French president's current visit.

In reply to a question about the principles contained in the recent statement by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on peace and a just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem, President Mitterrand said these principles are positive, constructive, continuing, of basic importance and constitute a sound base. This is the first initiative, which once more opens the door for a negotiation that could lead to peace in the Middle East.

Mitterrand affirmed that France is interested in this initiative and continues to pay full attention to it. These principles, he said, are the result of historic thinking about some of the basic principles of international law, the UN resolutions and principles. He added that he supports this initiative and will defend it before the [word indistinct] parties and on the international level.

Mitterrand added that everyone knows conditions have deteriorated in the Middle East between the Arab states and Israel. We believe in international law, which preserves the basic and legitimate rights of people to have their own homeland and to choose the system they wish in complete freedom -- naturally, within the framework of comprehensive guarantees given to both sides and acceptable to them. These guarantees must also enjoy support of the international community and be bolstered by it.

In reply to a question about the difference of views between the French and Saudi sides during the talks, Prince Fahd said: We discussed many issues with the French side. As regards the principles declared by the Kingdom on a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, the Kingdom believes they are useful principles but this should not mean they all must be accepted, because every country has its own particular views. But the impression I formed is that President Mitterrand believes they are principles that could be a good basis for peace. These principles have also enjoyed Arab and international support.

The purpose of submitting these principles and thoughts was to establish a basis from which the Kingdom, and the Arab and non-Arab countries, could begin and which could be conducive to agreement. Yet, despite the fact that these principles were accepted, it does not mean that they cannot be discussed. The important thing is that they are frank and clear principles which have won worldwide support because of the position the Kingdom occupies in the Arab, Islamic and international worlds.

Prince Fahd pointed out that President Francois Mitterrand had previously declared that the Palestinian people must attain their rights and form themselves by themselves. As for the Kingdom, it has affirmed and continues to affirm the need for granting the Palestinian people their full rights and for returning their homeland to them and for enjoying their right to self-determination. This principle, to which the Kingdom adheres, was one of the principles and ideas declared by the Kingdom for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

In reply to a question on whether the Saudi-French talks touched on the question of the internal situation in Libya and the question of Libya's interference in Chad, Prince Fahd said: We have not discussed any matter that could be construed as interference in Libya's affairs. This is because Libya has its own leaders and has a commander and people who decide what is best for it. Libya forms part of the African Continent and its geographical position was what drew the talks to it, with a view to discussing African problems. We and the French president hope Africa will be calm and that constructive solutions will be found for its problems.

In reply to a question on the current situation in Lebanon, President Mitterrand said France is fully prepared to exert its efforts to bring the views of the conflicting parties closer and create an atmosphere of amity and harmony among them. We are anxious to find the means leading to unification of the Lebanese territory. In my opinion, he said, this could be achieved through some sort of Lebanese authority such as the Lebanese forces or the army. He pointed out that the United Nations should intervene, to expand the size of the UN forces in Southern Lebanon so that they may be able to play their role between the conflicting parties in southern Lebanon.

He also praised the efforts exerted by the Arab follow-up committee to bring about accord among the various Lebanese parties, and said France is anxious to see security reign in Lebanon, "because we are bound to Lebanon by old ties of friendship, and we have duties and rights toward it."

In reply to a question about the Lebanese question, Prince Fahd affirmed that the Israeli enemy is the cause of the continuation of the Lebanon's internal affairs, and should not appoint itself as a guardian of the Lebanese people or the Palestinian people. One of the principle reasons for the problems in Lebanon is Israel's movement into Lebanon. When Israel stops its aggressive practices against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, it will become possible then to solve the Lebanese problem. He denounced the repeated Israeli aggressions on the Palestinians and Lebanese, and the killing of women, old people and innocent children.

Referring to the question of the AWACS, which the Kingdom has asked to buy, Prince Fahd said U.S. President Reagan is doing all he can to ensure that the Kingdom will obtain the AWACS. The matter is still before the U.S. Congress. We do not know yet whether Congress will realize the interests of the United States and how important it is to sell these AWACS to the Kingdom.

It is useful that we should wait until the true results become known. This should not take long. In the light of the outcome, the Kingdom will then take whatever measures it deems fit.

In reply to a question about the Kingdom's position with regard to the assumption of power by the left in France, Prince Fahd affirmed that the friendly relations between the Kingdom and France are strong and of long-standing, and the Kingdom does not build its friendship with France on political parties nor is it customary for the Kingdom to interfere in the internal affairs of France. He added that it was not in the Kingdom's interests to specify the type of government or party that could reach power in any country. King Khalid's recent visit to France, and Mitterrand's current visit, provide clear proof that Saudi-French relations are strong and solid.

Speaking about his forthcoming visits, President Mitterrand said: My visit to Israel, or to any other people, will not conflict with my visit to Saudi Arabia, which has helped me greatly to have a better grasp of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that of the Palestinian people from the point of view of justice. King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz have given me many important facts in regard to these causes.

We in France, he said, do not replace one friend by another, but we open new friendships. I have learned many important things in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and I have learned wisdom and realism.

Press Handout Cites Mitterrand

LD281204 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1040 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 28 Sep (SPA) -- French President Francois Mitterrand has declared that the peace plan for a just comprehensive peace in the Middle East which was put forward by Deputy Saudi Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz is the most important progress made for many long years on the road toward peace and is also a comprehensive vision which could be a basis for an effective dialogue leading in the end to peace.

This was contained in a press handout issued today at the end of President Mitterrand's visit to the Kingdom. In this press handout King Khalid expressed his deep gratitude for the positive spirit shown by President Mitterrand toward the Kingdom and France's determination to seek a just solution for the Middle East question which respects the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The following is the text of the press handout:

At the official invitation of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, French President Francois Mitterrand paid an official visit to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom from 26 to 28 September 1981 at the head of a high-level delegation.

The visit has provided an opportunity for consultations and exchange of views between the French president and accompanying delegation, on the one hand, and King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and senior Saudi officials, on the other.

The discussions covered a large number of issues which included bilateral relations, the Middle East question and the current international situation.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of amity, cordiality and positiveness, coupled with a common determination to develop and give a push forward to the relations between the two countries.

President Mitterrand expressed his belief that the peace plan put forward by the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has the most important progress made so far for many long years on the road to peace and was also a comprehensive vision representing a basis for an effective dialogue which would in the end lead to peace.

French President Mitterrand also affirmed that the traditional friendship which binds France and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and all the Arab countries together will grow and florish with the passage of time, and that he attached great care and attention to it.

King Khalid expressed his deep gratitude for the positive spirit shown by President Mitterrand toward the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and for French determination to seek a just solution for the Middle East question which would respect the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

At the end of the visit, President Mitterrand expressed his extreme appreciation for the welcome he received on both the official and popular levels. It was agreed that the officials of both countries shall exchange visits to discuss all aspects of cooperation between the two countries for the good of both peoples.

Mitterrand Discusses Lebanon

NC281136 Paris AFP in English 1131 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, 28 Sep (AFP) -- President Francois Mitterrand of France today ended a three-day official visit here saying that "everything must be done" to reinstate the unity of the Lebanon.

At a press conference he held in this western Saudi city with Crown Prince Fahd, Mr Mitterrand said United Nations troops should create a buffer zone between warring factions in the troubled country, particularly in the south.

The creation of a proper Lebanese armed force and the reinforcement of the central government would help to put an end to the civil strife in that country, he said.

Both Prince Fahd and Mr Mitterrand agreed that the peace plan proposed by the Saudi Prince could be a starting point for negotiations leading to a lasting peace in the Middle East. France would be ready to contribute to such negotiations if they were started by other countries, Mr Mitterrand said, and Prince Fahd said the French view was "acceptable, but should be discussed."

The French president said his administration was watching "with great interest" the work of the quadripartite commission trying to end the internal strife in the Lebanon, and Prince Fahd added that Israel was "primarily responsible" for the political instability there.

Asked about Mr Mitterrand's alleged "feelings of friendship" for Israel, the Saudi prince said that France was not "the only country having friendly relations with both Israel and Saudi Arabia."

He praised France's refusal to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and Mr Mitterrand told newsmen that he had not come here "to trade one friendship for another."

King Khalid and other ranking Saudi officials were at At-Ta'if Airport to see Mr Mitterrand off at the end of his first official visit since he took over the French presidency last May 21.

Riyadh Comments on Results

LD281440 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Hashim Abduh Hashim commentary]

[Excerpts] In spite of everything, the high-level, Saudi-French meetings over the past 2 days between King Khalid and Prince Fahd on the one hand, and French President Francois Mitterrand on the other hand, were meetings of friendship and comprehensive cooperation. Indeed, they can be described as meetings of construction during which the two countries agreed on most of the issues raised, and on many of the conditions surrounding the region and other countries of the world.

This time, French President Francois Mitterrand has learned in detail an important collection of facts, and has discovered for himself the extent of Arab seriousness and sincere desire to establish peace and security in the region. He also learned the extent of our determination that peace must be comprehensive, realized under the most equitable conditions, and most amenable to the rights of the Palestine people and of the other Arab peoples.

The natural start for discussing the nature and characteristics of peace, and the ways to achieve it, could become a truly effective start by means of direct dialogue between the peace-loving countries and the PLO -- with full recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of a people the majority of whom have been expelled, and some of whom have been enslaved and placed under the will of the aggressor and usurper.

We say this, realizing at the same time that there are numerous matters which could help the French friends to become convinced that it is impossible for the dialogue to continue without the participation of the PLO, and within a framework which can guarantee the full rights of the Palestinian people, their independence and freedom.

In spite of everything, it is still too early to say that a just and comprehensive solution has become imminent. This is due to one simple reason: intensive efforts will have to continue in a manner more closely related to the facts and taking into consideration all the implications [words indistinct].

However, we can say that the large measure of understanding by the French of many of the Arab views expressed by Saudi Arabia to President Mitterrand, constitute a genuine nucleus for European stands that are more realistic, and indeed closer to ours, and more cognizant of our demands.

Undoubtedly, the French president must have found in our stands as discussed with him here a desire and a total sincerity which should help encourage his country to exercise a more effective role in this direction, and [words indistinct].

We in Saudi Arabia very much doubt the possibility of achieving peace in view of Israel's continued stubborness and disregard of the historic, organic and spiritual rights of the Islamic nation in Jerusalem.

Friendly France can convey our convictions to the European community, if it so wishes. It can also sponsor our views in all forums and meetings and make use of the trust everyone has in France, so that he may play an important role strengthened by faith in and respect for our rights, and work for full and lasting stability in the region.

French President Leaves

LD281354 Riyadh SPA in English 1236 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 28 Sep (SPA) -- French President Francois Mitterrand and his accompanying delegation left here today for home at the conclusion of their three-day official visit to the kingdom. President Mitterrand, on his departure, was seen off at the At-Ta'if Airport by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, defence and aviation minister, and a number of princes and high-ranking officials.

UAE

PAPER COMMENTS ON U.S. CONDITIONS ON AWACS SALE

GF271925 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 27 Sep 81 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] The conditions that are being placed by the Reagan administration and the U.S. Congress on the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia -- conditions that have been reported by news agencies in the past days -- raise many questions on the significance of Arab-U.S. relations.

We have never heard that an arms contract with Israel has raised any objection, protest or uproar as that raised by this Saudi contract.

The decisionmakers in the United States have no qualms about endorsing every arms deal with the Israeli enemy, but they hesitate, indeed, they object to the sale of every rifle, gun or plane to the Arabs.

The reason is well known. The U.S. decision is made by Zionist circles. It is formulated before it passes through the U.S. channels that are under the control of these circles. It can be said that it is ultimately a Zionist decision.

Hence the problem of the AWACS. The problem of the AWACS is primarily a political problem. President Reagan's remark that Saudi Arabia will ultimately agree to this deal despite all the conditions that have been placed on it are strange. To compare such an agreement to the Saudi attitude in assisting to bring about a cease-fire in the recent Israeli-Palestinian war is even stranger. Does Reagan believe that Saudi Arabia's intervention with the PLO to bring about a cease-fire was aimed at helping the United States or the PLO, which saw that it was in its interest to have a cease-fire at that particular time?

Today's reports on Saudi Arabia's threat to withdraw from the AWACS deal -- and consequently from the entire U.S. arms deal -- is a source of satisfaction to all Arabs. This is because this sale was a new Saudi test of the U.S. stand. Reaction to this threat was clear in Reagan's remarks when he said that Congress' rejection of the deal means the neutralization of the U.S. ability "to continue its efforts to establish peace in the Middle East."

The real question, however, remains: Is the United States, and the Reagan administration in particular, looking for peace in the Middle East? What kind of peace is this U.S. peace? Is it something other than the Camp David line that we have known and rejected?

BRITISH INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES 28 SEP

GF281005 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0740 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 28 Sep (ENA) -- British Minister of State for Industry Kenneth Baker arrived in the country from Muscat this morning for a short visit to the UAE. He will hold talks with a number of state officials on developing industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Baker told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that his visit is one of a series that started with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to the UAE last year which are aimed at developing bilateral relations in all fields. He added that he will discuss prospects of utilizing advanced British technology in the fields of communication, press and petroleum.

YAR

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

JN252043 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1835 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Address by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on 25 September 1981 marking the 19th anniversary of the 26 September Revolution -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful the compassionate, may the peace and blessings of God be upon his prophet.

Brother Yemenis at home and abroad, heroes of the armed and security forces: I greet you on this great day which we celebrate with profound feelings of joy, pride and confidence. The 19th anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution, and welcome the 20th year of this revolution, which was a significant turning point in the life of our people and Arab nation.

Brothers, our revolution took place amid circumstances in which the Arab revolutionary movement was going through a recession and a major crisis because of the imperialist onslaught. Thus the 26 September Revolution was the great upheaval which changed the equations in the Arab arena at that time.

Our revolution has faced hardships and many plots since its outbreak 19 years ago, but all these plots have failed thanks to our people's faith, maturity and determination to defend the revolution and its gains. Today, we reaffirm the continuation of our country's independent national line, which our people have chosen and safeguarded through long struggle and heavy sacrifices. Thus our country will continue to reject alignment with East or West. It will also continue to be independent and neutral in international dealings. We will build our present and future and plan our development with our own free Yemeni will, which stems from our people's cultural legacy and historical struggle. Our national decision shall stem from the will of our people.

Free Yemeni brothers: The struggle course so far covered by your revolution with full determination and capability is a splendid and bright picture of the great cultural achievement made by our great Yemeni people under the revolution. Its daily achievements and gains are the result of hard work rather than falsehood, charlatanery and outbidding. The process of comprehensive development in our country is felt daily by the citizen through the construction of schools, hospitals and roads and the provision of electricity, water and modern means of communication in all parts of the republic.

O free brother compatriots; O men of the armed forces and security; our armed forces and security forces, who formed the patriotic vanguard in initiating the immortal 26 September Revolution, are the shield protecting the revolution and its gains and they are the solid tool defending our country's sovereignty and independence. Our armed forces will continue to play their role with firm faith and boundless determination.

This national institution was and will continue to be loyal to our people in confronting all kinds of plots and acts of terrorism which are being hatched by forces that want our people to become fragmented and backward and seek to undermine this people's gains and achievements thus expressing their hidden rancour toward the security and stability prevailing in our country and this country's achievements, and in an attempt to safeguard their personal interests. Our armed forces and security forces, which have continued the march of progress and culture of our people [word indistinct], are strengthened daily and are witnessing more development. They have been supplied by sophisticated weapons from various sources. The decision to arm these forces was one of the national decisions made by the political command in the service of the supreme national interest and guarantees supplying our armed forces with quantitative arms so that they will perform their pan-Arab and national role.

When we speak about our armed forces and security forces, we mean the hero soldier who has been defending the revolution and the republic and our national gains since the inception of the revolution. This soldier is confronting all plots and intrigues armed with his faith in God and loyalty to his homeland, revolution, people, vigilance and bravery. Therefore, the soldier of the armed forces and security forces is given the greatest attention in his capacity as the most important element in developing our armed forces, for he is the soldier and faithful guard of the revolution. We will continue to give special attention and care to the armed forces and security forces the attention and care they deserve while holding the belief and hoping that this would effectively participate in the service of the supreme interest of the homeland.

O masses of our toiling people: Our concern for the fateful issues of our people makes it incumbent upon us to adopt a principled commitment toward the revolution and its objectives. If we show special concern for the issue of national unity when we deal with the issues of homeland, it is because of our faith that national unity is the practical and sound beginning for the restoration of the unity of Yemen, which is the objective and fate our people. Our attention and struggle are focused on the character of our country and its role and position. Our country will assume perfection and strength only by its unity.

Though colonialism and the imamate had participated in creating this division and imposed it on our people, it was the fate of our generation to bear the responsibility, to rectify the wrong and to straighten up matters. Ending this division is one of the most important objectives and principles of the 26 September Revolution. We all, along with the sincere and loyal sons of the one Yemeni people in the two parts, will continue to work on all levels to achieve this great and precious objective. Unity is a fateful and inevitable issue. We must continue the struggle to achieve it by all peaceful means and ways and in accordance with the agreements signed between the two parts leaderships. We managed, praise be to God, to take sound steps along the road of unity. Our people in the two parts are well aware of these steps. This annoys the mercenaries, the secessionists and the advocates of division and [words indistinct] plotting against unity.

However, we are confident that any plot against this fateful issue will be doomed to failure, just as were all the previous plots which were aimed against the national and legitimate aspirations and hopes of our people. Our people emerged victorious and are continuing their march.

Brother compatriots: The Palestine question is our main issue and the cause of all the Arabs. Our country has often declared, in all Arab and international conferences and forums as well as in regional and world organizations, our position on the need to continue to support the Palestinian people's armed struggle against Zionism and its agents in order to regain their national legitimate rights, including their right to return to their homeland, determine their own destiny and set up their independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Therefore, the commitment of our people and country to the Palestine question has not been confined to merely giving political and moral support, but has gone beyond that to the establishment of a blood bond through participation in the Palestinian revolution's struggle out of our people's belief in the pan-Arabism of the battle. Our sons have waged armed struggle in support of the Palestinian revolution. Many of our sons fell, martyrs to the fulfillment of their pan-Arab duty. Brothers, when we declare our support for the Palestinian struggle, we are not engaging in outbiddings. We are confident that our brothers in the Palestinian revolution feel our firm and effective participation in the struggle and are aware of our sons' determination to sacrifice their lives for the triumph of justice over falsehood and the Zionist usurpers.

Great Yemeni people: Our faith in our country's pan-Arab responsibility has promoted us at all times to call for avoiding Arab differences and divisions, exerting joint efforts, facing up to responsibility and utilizing all capabilities, resources and energies against the dangers threatening the very existence and destiny of the Arab nation, especially the danger of the Zionist invasion of the Arab nation. Our call is prompted by our awareness of the division which has sapped the vitality and energies of the Arab nation and of Israel's arrogance and aggression against the Arab nation. The attack on the nuclear reactor in fraternal Iraq and the savage raids on Lebanese and Palestinian civilians are evidence of what we are saying. They prove Israel's barbaric nature and aggressive expansionist designs and expose it before the whole international community.

Brothers, our pan-Arab policy has enabled our country to establish strong ties with all Arab states, to create good opportunities for cooperation in all fields and to play its role in working for Arab unity and repudiating division and estrangement. This policy has won us the respect of all Arabs.

On this occasion, we would like to assert that our country, in its commitment to the principles and objectives of the September Revolution, will continue to uphold the policy of nonalignment, reject all forms of military alliances and blocks and adhere to the principle of noninterference in other people's internal affairs and respect for other people's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. Our adherence to this policy, brothers, stems from our determination to safeguard our country's sovereignty and independence and endeavor to develop its capabilities and resources. Acting on the principles of our revolution, our country has always supported national liberation movements in the whole world, fought all forms of imperialism as well as racism and racial discrimination and supported all efforts to preserve world peace and security, strengthen international detente policy, stop the arms race and ban the use and proliferation of nuclear weapons. This is for the purpose of creating the right atmosphere so that the world can live in peace and security.

Our country is also cooperating with the Nonaligned Movement in normalizing international relations and establishing a new world economic order which will enable the countries of the Third World to exploit their resources for the sake of their own peoples. Our balanced nonaligned policy has won our country a notable place of which we are proud. Furthermore, this policy has increased our country's status and role in a world dominated by conflict, rivalry and tendencies toward domination.

Masses of our struggler people: While we are celebrating the 19th anniversary of our great revolution and welcoming its 20th year, we feel overjoyed, because the years have strengthened our revolution, enriched its experience and increased its maturity through challenges. All this has added great deeds and heroic acts to the record of our national struggle which will be immortalized by history.

On this great occasion, we pray to God almighty to grant peace to our righteous martyrs and the martyr sons of Arab Egypt who fell for the sake of the victory and continuation of our revolution.

Brother free Yemenis at home and abroad: We pledge to God that we will continue to carry the banner of the revolution aloft and preserve its gains and principles at all costs. This is the mission to which we are devoting our lives. We wish our people more progress and our September Revolution more success. We pray to God almighty to guide our steps. Peace be upon you.

SALIH INVITES FORMER PRESIDENT TO RETURN

JN251900 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Text] On this immortal day of the history of our great Yemeni people; on the occasion of the popular and official celebrations; on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the great 26 September Revolution; in consolidation of the noble humanitarian meaning and cultrual values of our people [words indistinct]; in commitment to the principle of allegiance and appreciation of all those who had sincerely worked for the sake of the revolution and the republic; in honor of the souls of martyrs who watered with their blood the tree of the revolution and [words indistinct] and out of the faith of the comrade leader that the Yemeni homeland belongs to all the sons of the people and that living on its land is the right of every Yemeni; in manifestation of the principles of the revolution which have been presistently entrenched by the brother leader and in honor of all the national and revolutionary principles and the sublime values represented by this immortal occasion in the life of our great Yemeni people, the brother leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces has requested former President 'Abdallah Husayn as-Sallal and Al-Qadi 'Adb ar-Rahman Yahya al-Iriyani, president of the republican council, to return to the homeland to live on its pure soil under the canopy of real democracy and comprehensive freedom [words indistinct] which are being enjoyed by every Yemeni citizen on Yemeni soil and [words indistinct] who served the people and believed in the September Revolution.

Former President Responds

HN280720 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has received the following cable:

My son President Col 'Ali' 'Abdallah Salih: I extend to you my gratitude and appreciation for your gracious invitation to me to return to my country and live among my people in my cherished homeland as a respected citizen after having carried out my duty faithfully and honorably. With this gesture, you have set a magnificent example for all. I hope that this propitious step will be taken by all those who are placed in trust and who appreciate the duties of responsibility so that tolerance, love, magnanimity and loyalty will prevail among all the sons of Yemen.

In conclusion, I congratulate you on the anniversary of the glorious revolution. May god grant you success and bless your benevolent steps. God answers all prayers.

[Signed] Your father 'Abdallah as-Sallal

The brother president has also received the following cable:

Your excellency brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces: Your courageous decision on the return of your brother strugglers after 14 years in exile is a revolutionary decision which many have refrained from taking. We congratulate you and ourselves. May God grant you success.

[Signed] Your brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah as-Sallal

OFFICIALS SPEAK AT NDP NATIONAL CONGRESS

Mubarak Speech

NC281350 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0932 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Speech delivered by Vice President Husni Mubarak at the opening session of the second National Democratic Party [NDP] National Congress at Cairo University--live in linkup of Cairo transmitters]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, Mr President and head of the Egyptian family, brothers and sisters members of the NDP National Congress: It gives me pride and happiness to begin this National Congress by commemorating a dear anniversary representing a splendid heroic epic that is added to the record of this noble people who have always given great sacrifices. This anniversary asserts our people's constant capabilities of making miracles and forging ahead toward the bright future with firmness, reassured hearts and relentless will.

The story of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's struggle [applause] for freedom and dignity is a bright page in which our people take pride as well as an eternal torch that will continue to inspire the future generations of our sons and will be an example of allegiance to the homeland, pride in belonging to this nation, firmness in seeking the right and rebellion against the wrong, rejection of oppression and unjustice, adherence to lofty values and principles, preservation of dignity and readiness for sacrifices, insistence on revolutionary purity, rejection of trivialities, self-confidence and hope in the future. 'Abd an-Nasir lived and died as an example of rare courage and patriotism. He gave all his youth and aspirations for Egypt. His mind was preoccupied only with the great national cause for which he devoted his thought, work and efforts. This could never have been achieved had his heart not been full of love for the homeland, faith in God, allegiance to the people and pride in belonging to this nation. Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's patriotic feelings were a torrential current.

His feelings were not based on fanaticism or narrowmindedness but stemmed from a unique historic realization of the mission of civilization of the Arab nation and the vanguard role destined for the Egyptian people. Thus, his profound feeling and penetrating vision managed to achieve this marriage between the national concept and a pan-Arab nation. He succeeded, because he proceeded from a faith in the right, sublime affiliation with the cause and extraordinary ability to sacrifice for the cause. When 'Abd an-Nasir and his comrades risked their lives and staged the revolution on the eve of 23 July 1952 [applause] they were not dissociated from the people's movement and their struggling march. They expressed the revolution that was latent in the collective conscience of the people, their strong faith in God, firm commitment to liberating their homeland and purging the evils of colonialism, exploitation, reaction and opportunism. They also expressed the people's zeal to achieve independence, win freedom, and adhere to the original Egyptian values stemming from the people's heritage, civilization and struggle. Foremost of this heritage is the people's rejection of grudge, hatred and fanaticism and pride in tolerance, fraternity and love.

Thus, the revolution staged and led by Egypt's great son, Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, was a guiding light and not a burning and devastating fire. It was the first white revolution that spread its light throughout the Arab homeland and even throughout the Third World --in Africa, Asia and Latin America. This revolution left a clear stamp on relations among countries throughout the world and made a historic contribution to the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement and participated directly and effectively in the success of every liberation movement that struggled for independence and dignity and fought the forces of oppression, aggression and domination.

Right from the beginning, 'Abd an-Nasir realized that the greatest challenge lies in purging the internal front from the elements of corruption, political and economic exploitation and social injustice. Thus, the revolution purged the political parties that lost their ability to represent the people and express their ambitions and aspirations.

Thus, when the parties failed to purge themselves, it was necessary to issue a law abolishing them to protect the people from the elements that persisted in submitting to the colonialists, kneeling before the palace and its henchmen, making fortunes at the expense of the toiling masses, trading in the people's suffering and pain and relinquishing their interests and rights just to seek power and influence.

Recently we saw the remnants of these parties, which were rejected by the people after they lost their legitimacy and qualifications, trying to leave their caves to destroy the gains made by the revolution and turn Egypt backward, depriving the people of their achievements and turning the clock back in the hope of regaining their oppressive privileges and imposing their trusteeship on the people as if the revolution had not taken place or as if it was a passing event that the papers of history did not record. These opportunist elements forgot that the movement of history goes forward and not backward and that the conditions of colonialism and feudalism that emerged under their influence and which achieved their ambitions are gone for good. There are no longer colonialists or a palace to protect them. What is more important is that these elements forgot that the revolution is continuing and that As-Sadat's reign is an extension of 'Abd an-Nasir's achievements [applause]. They forgot that the correction revolution is a confirmation of the mother revolution and its gains [applause] and that the great victory achieved by the Egyptian people and their armed forces on 10 Ramadan was a coronation of the great action that began on 23 July 1952 and an exoneration of our immortal revolution of the setbacks it encountered because of the successive battles it waged for the sake of the helpless peoples and a new proof of this people's extraordinary ability to make sacrifices for the homeland, honor and dignity.

There is another group trying to hide themselves behind 'Abd an-Nasir, who is innocent of them. They use his name and claim to be pursuing his course, although they are far from his thoughts, course and principles. They tried to destroy the revolution and to usurp its gains while 'Abd an-Nasir was alive. They exploited the government and its organs to achieve their personal ends and interests at the expense of the interests of the masses. The people, however, were lying in wait for them and exposed their oppression and plotting and foiled their scheme because the people enjoy the historic awareness to distinguish between the right and wrong, the good and the bad, and to strike relentlessly at the corruptors on earth.

The lesson of all this is that the march led by 'Abd an-Nasir is still continuing in its course without hesitation and that the banner he raised for Egypt and its holy soil is still fluttering, promising a bright future. 'Abd an-Nasir's memory will continue to live in our hearts so long as our hearts beat and his splendid memory is long remembered by all as a man who lived and gave his life for Egypt and the Arab nation. May peace be upon him when he was born, when he struggled as an honorable hero and when he handed over the banner with head held high. [applause]

Mr President, dear brothers: Our congress is extremely important due to the historical circumstances under which it is taking place, the mammoth accomplishments that have been achieved since the convocation of the first conference as well as the challenges that are facing us and our insistence on dealing with them with a tenacious will. We pledge allegiance to Egypt and to our responsibilities while carrying out our duty. Perhaps the most important event that must be mentioned is the completion of Sinai's liberation and the removal of foreign occupation from that area of Egypt's sacred land [applause]. Thus, the Egyptian revolution will have carried out its duties in the best possible manner. It has liberated Egypt's territories, will and culture. It vanquished all the imperialist assaults and the exploitation attempts which aimed at tampering with the people's resources and maintaining their subjugation to a small group which was allied with the imperialists. The Egyptian revolution has achieved social justice, it did away with the hierarchial preferences and made the Egyptians a free people, basking in security and certain of their livelihood--now and tomorrow. The revolution restored the Egyptian people's full sovereignty in their land.

Needless to note, the completion of the full Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai is a fact that is beyond doubt [chants praising As-Sadat]. We will accept no compromise or concessions on this because this withdrawal is the most important pledge given by Israel in accordance with the clauses of the peace treaty--in exchange for pledges given by Egypt and carried out by it in a positive, constructive spirit. An agreement has also been attained on the formation of the multinational force to maintain peace along both sides of the Egyptian-Israeli border and, thus, we have passed through all the stages that will lead to the completion of the withdrawal. There are no longer any obstacles along the way. Therefore, directives have been issued to the specialized ministers as well as to high officials in various sectors to start their preparations to resume their tasks in the remainder of the Sinai so as to rehabilitate and reconstruct it by Egyptian hands on the same day Israel completes its withdrawal. Then, a historical and cultural significance will be attained--a significance that would herald the restoration of Egypt's sovereignty over this sacred part of Egypt's glorious soil. [applause].

When one thinks about the completion of the liberation of Egypt's soil, one focuses one's eyes and heart on our heroic armed forces [applause]. These forces have turned these national aspirations into tangible facts when they crossed the Suez Canal and smashed the Bar-Lev line with noteworthy bravery and a deep belief in God and country. With one blow they did away with the myth of the Israeli invincibility theory and Arab backwardness. They restored dignity and honor to the Arab nation among other nations and wrote a new page in its history--a page based on sacrifice and a preparedness to offer one's spirit and blood for beloved Egypt. So greetings to all the Egyptian honest fighters who waged the battles of honor and dignity so that Egypt can live in glory and security. Greetings to every soldier in our armed forces [applause] who keep vigilance over Egypt's security and well-being, who is defending and protecting its sanctities and foiling the enemies' designs and, with his blood, sweat and sacrifices, is building the road to peace.

In parallel with this event, which history will record in letters of light, the negotiations on full autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are in progress. Their aim is to enable the fraternal Palestinian people to put their feet on the beginning of the road, to bring them closer to exercising their right to self-determination and alleviate their sufferings through the termination of military occupation, the abolition of the post of military governor and the civilian administration attached to him and the election of a Palestinian Government that will enjoy wide powers on the basis that the significance of the formula stipulated in the Camp David framework and the documents appended to it lies in terminating the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the substitution of the Palestinian authority for the Israeli domination.

The autonomy negotiations were resumed in Cairo some days ago. This gave us a chance to discern the present Israeli position on the main issues of the matter and the course we can take to achieve progress in the interest of the Palestinian people as soon as possible. We insist on giving these negotiations all the chances of success because the sides have agreed to certain specific commitments and undertakings at Camp David and because the situation in the region makes it imperative that tangible progress be achieved without delay so that the chances of calm and stability in this strategic part of the world may increase and so that the edifice of peace first founded by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat [applause] with his brave and wise steps may be cemented. These steps have earned us and the Arab nation to which we belong the confidence, respect and appreciation of the world.

We believe that the two sides, with the active participation of the United States, can agree on the general principles and the broadlines for full autonomy within the coming months. This will be another step toward a settlement and it will make it possible to reach agreement on the details during the first half of next year. The Palestinian people will thus be able to cast their vote and express their will for the first time since the beginning of the Israeli occupation in June 1967 [cheers for As-Sadat] on the grounds that ultimately the decision lies with these steadfast people.

We do not speak on their behalf, act for them or impose anything on them. We stand with them in their plight and we support them and help them take a first step on the road to liberation and salvation. We do so with tangible practical steps attained with hard work, at a time when others just give them sweet talk or just look on as spectators, criticizing whoever acts and moves and demonstrating no willingness to contribute to any progress, not even with good advice and constructive words.

We announce anew that we will not forfeit the right of anyone to make moves as he pleases in search for a just and acceptable settlement of the Palestinian problem. We are not monopolizing the burden and responsibility of making moves nor are we claiming to be the trustees of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian question is a trust that we accepted and a pan-Arab responsibility that we are willingly and voluntarily seeking to tackle out of firm faith in God and a profound feeling of pan-Arab affiliation and not out of ignorance and fanaticism, but awareness, purpose and vision. Anyone who wants to make moves is welcome and to any one who wants to participate in tackling the question, we say that there is room. The path is long and the struggle is a duty that we must all perform. However, we will reject anyone that tells the Egyptians who are sacrificing their blood and bread: Go thou, and thy lord, and fight ye two, while we sit here. [Koranic verse] [applause]

Mr President, under your inspiring leadership, Egypt accepts with satisfaction and conviction the role bestowed on it, not only to safeguard the rights of the Arab nation and its vital interests but also to achieve stability throughout the Middle East and protect it from the dangers of foreign intervention and the attempts to extend influence and neocolonialism which is based on subverting societies from within, planting the seeds of rifts and divisions among the people, fabricating regional strife and kindling the fire of creed differences which is falsely described as such. All this is aimed at controlling the peoples' fortunes and exploiting them in the service of foreign interests, hindering their march toward progress and linking their fate with the circles with which they have no common interest, creed or aim.

We believe that the Arab, Islamic, African and all of the Third World peoples must build their intrinsic force through the exchange of expertise, sharing of resources and turning the verbal solidarity into a tangible and effective fact so that they can face the challenges as one strong front that can withstand plots. The Nonaligned Movement must also pay attention to its weakening position and the crisis it put itself in when it allowed foreign circles to infiltrate it, manipulate its will and use some of its states to serve their ambitions and aims. The challenge for this movement is to be or not be and to manage to survive and remain steadfast or else become a neglected bloc.

If some people are tolerant about tampering with their fate and the threats to their security, ignoring what is being hatched against them in public and in secret, Egypt rejects this impotent logic and insists on shouldering its full responsibility whatever the sacrifices. Egypt is lying in wait for the suspect moves that are threatening the security of the peoples of the area. Egypt will not hesitate in helping a friend should he be exposed to aggression and threats because we believe that we all stand in one trench united by the same fate and challenges.

A few weeks ago, the forces of intervention decided to escalate their activity in the area. They concluded a new tripartite alliance among states which are under their influence. They planned further coordination in a manner threatening the security and peace of the neighboring states. What interests us in all this is to warn the members of this unholy alliance against any hostile action against the neighboring countries with which we are linked by ties of friendship, particularly fraternal Sudan, Somalia [applause] and the Sultanate of Oman. We consider any aggression against these states as a direct aggression against Egypt which must be faced with all firmness and resolve.

There are reports that the regime that dominates fraternal Libya is trying to drag Ethiopia into a losing adventure by asking it to supply it with mercenary Ethiopian forces to replace the Cuban forces in the acts of subversion on the African Continent, and in keeping the Libyan people in the grip of this desperate regime which lost its qualification after it destroyed its legitimacy. We warn Ethiopia against this trap which will inevitably have serious consequences.

We also remind those that need to be reminded that Egypt and the Sudan are one entity [applause]. They are twin people [applause], who are linked by an eternal and glorious unity and a unified strategic interest and deep-rooted consciencious ties, based on kinship and neighborly relations. Therefore, we want to achieve integration between the two countries in various spheres. In the near future, we intend to double and take new steps in addition to the ones we have made so far in this respect. Allow me to greet the fraternal Sudanese delegation which is attending this conference with us [applause]. We greet the fraternal Sudanese delegation headed by Brother Bashir, the member of the Sudanese Socialist Union's Political Department [applause; chants in praise of As-Sadat]. As a matter of fact, this Sudanese participation in our conference is a true reflection of the special relationships which bind the two countries and the two people and a practical translation of the eternal brotherhood and the belief in a unity of destiny.

Mr President, brothers and sisters--members of the conference. The most effective weapon in any battle which Egypt is waging [cheers for As-Sadat] is the safety and tenacity of the internal front. This is a quality in which we take pride and are keen to maintain. Therefore, we are determined to safeguard the safety of the internal front, social peace and national unity and to protect it from any harm or threat.

God has graced Egypt with the spirit of brotherhood and with creative coexistence among all its sons, who drink from Egypt's sweet water spring, who are sheltered by Egypt's loving sky and who find their own manifest glory and pride in Egypt's dignity and glory.

A turncoat faction of 20th century renegades and of the vestiges of the corrupt party life tried to rear its head and again spit out its venom. It has forgotten that Egypt's good land casts out evil, rejects falsehood and denies its bounty to anything harmful to the nation, which is the best nation given to mankind. It was imperative for the conscientious Egyptian people to nip this sedition in the bud, before it could grow and harm the soundness of the front. It goes without saying that this move on the part of the people and of their government to outflank and confront the sedition is not a return to the concepts and methods of the past. Nor does it represent a retrogression from democracy. However, what has happened has guaranteed and strengthened democracy [applause]. The reason is that we finally believe that more democracy and freedom provide a remedy for the problems of democracy. However, democracy turns into anarchy if it becomes a dictatorship of a corrupt minority against a sound majority which has announced its unanimous will in all clarity and frankness. This matter is connected with the battle which we are now beginning to wage against indiscipline and deviation in all the aspects of our life. The reason is that this negative phenomenon inflicts extensive harm on our procession, be it in the economic domain connected with production, in the social field as concerns public morals and the code of conduct at work and at schools, or in streets and homes. If freedom turns into chaos it becomes the scourge of society and a setback unacceptable to those who are loyal to Egypt and to its sound cultural heritage. [cheers for As-Sadat]

In this respect we must understand an important fact--that the effective confrontation of such negativisms is a political confrontation in the first instance. The formation of our leading party's base has been completed. Also it now has 1.5 million members.

Therefore, our party must assume the great responsibility of moving among the masses, of ensuring the home front against the renegade saboteurs and of preserving the social structure and the principled system against tampering by the rancorous ones, who act at the behest of foreign quarters not in the least concerned with the Egyptian people's interest.

Furthermore, it should be clear to all that Egypt is in good shape, that the sedition which the renegade minority has tried to kindle has been nipped in the bud and that this sedition has absolutely failed to harm Egypt's stability and firmly-established order. The most eloquent proof is that all the measures which have been taken to confront this sedition have been taken within the framework of constitutional legitimacy and in accordance with the provisions of the law. Furthermore, these measures have enjoyed the masses' unanimous satisfaction. Nor were these measures accompanied by any aspects of violence or by any departure from the law.

Some foreign information media have misunderstood the situation and have projected a distorted image of the situation, either as a bona fide action or for other purposes. Therefore, it is incumbent on the NDP masses to discharge their basic duty of rectifying these erroneous concepts, rebutting lies and profilerating the truth at home and abroad out of loyalty to Egypt, in implementation of the trust and to uphold the truth.

Mr President, dear brothers and sisters [cheers for As-Sadat]: The past witnessed great achievements by the party through persistent work, action among the masses, by sharing the people's problems, by recognizing their interests and demands, by defending their rights and achievements and by expressing their hopes and aspirations. We do not mention this fact because we are satisfied and do not need to entertain further achievements. Rather, we believe that there is still a long way before us which we must cover until we achieve for Egypt the dignity and strength it deserves. We must increase agricultural and industrial production by increasing the production units or by adopting modern technological methods to increase productivity and raise the quality standard. We must also continue to develop the governmental apparatus and the administrative systems with a view to simplifying procedures and combating indiscipline, bringing the people to account who commit mistakes and are negligent, rewarding the people who are faithful to the public interest, and ending the currents which contribute to corruption, bribery and illegal collection of wealth.

While we are these days waging the battle of building peace and prosperity, our attention is primarily focused on economic and social development--in their comprehensive sense--and here we emphasize the role of popular development as one of the most important aspects of our pioneering party experiment, the priority we give to this great national work and the hopes which we pin on its continuation and development in the coming years.

Since the establishment of the National Development Bank [cheers for As-Sadat] in April last year with a capital of 50 million pounds, 22 banks have been established in the governorates with a total capital of 118 million pounds. The National Food Security Company was also established with a view to ensuring basic food commodities for the masses and the stabilization of prices and protecting the market against the factors of competition and parasitic actions that harm the consumer. In view of the success this company had in the performance of its mission, 50 companies have been established in the governorates with a total capital of 112 million pounds. Their total investment is 298 million pounds.

In the sphere of land reclamation, popular development has begun establishing a group of companies with a view to reclaiming and cultivating large areas of land in all parts of the country. Reclamation projects have in fact been prepared in Ismailia, Qina, Ash-Sharqiyah, Ad-Daqahliyah and Aswan. The number of popular development projects which were approved by the end of last month totaled 141 projects with a total capital of 540 million pounds and with a total investment cost of 2.5 billion pounds.

They include 24 banks and insurance companies, 13 agricultural projects, 10 industrial food projects, 4 industrial projects, 3 clothing projects, 15 housing and building material projects, 4 tourism projects, 4 goods transportation projects and 2 passenger transportation projects.

We realize that the philosophy in pursuing this method of development is that the general national effort must not be dependent on the government effort. It is a major work in which the people shoulder the greater part so that the masses can retain the element of initiative without development efforts getting lost in the maze of bureaucracy and routine, and so that the time and thought gap between the popular aspirations and the response of the official departments is narrowed. With the institutions they establish and keep under their control and supervision, the people can move independently and the big development projects can attract the investments of individuals and companies not only in Cairo and the big cities but also in the villages. In this way the masses will enter full force and directly into the development process.

In a move to strengthen this cohesion between the masses and their executive bodies, the various party secretariat have played an effective role in preparing and studying the bills pertaining to the production and development activity.

For example, we see that the party's commercial and industrial activity secretariat has participated in studying the income tax bill, the national import-export bill, the labor bill and the chambers of commerce bill. The secretariat has also discussed the meat problem and submitted specific recommendations for dealing with the roots of the crisis and providing meat and alternative products to the masses at suitable prices in harmony with the average income.

The labor secretariat has prepared complete studies on the labor law, the law on mine-workers and Law No 73 for the year 1973 pertaining to the participation of workers in the management of the public sector with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of such participation and the elimination of the conflict among the popular organizations within the establishment and promoting a formula for the integration of these organizations.

The farmers secretariat has turned its efforts to the development of agricultural production and the shift to extensive cultivation to ensure the highest productivity, especially in the field of food products for export. In this respect it has concentrated on the need to provide chemical fertilizers and rationalize the use of irrigation water in accordance with the most modern methods used in advanced foreign countries.

The craftsmen sector secretariat has exerted great efforts to carry out the president's directives regarding popular moves to counter exploitation and control prices. The secretariat has also submitted thorough studies on the actual cost of production and the appropriate profit margin. These studies have resulted in the issuance of the price list for vocational services in the governorates of Cairo and Al-Jizah. The secretariat has further presented a complete visualization on the taxation of craftsmen, which was instituted into the new law on taxation. Preparations have also been made to create a bank for craftsmen's cooperatives as an extension to the activities of the National Development Bank. This is in addition to the formation of a company for marketing handicraft products at home and abroad.

Mr President, you have given youth activities a strong boost with the regular meetings you have been holding since 24 April 1981 with Egypt's youths in various parts of the world. These meetings are held in the atmosphere of the big Egyptian family and are characterized by unity, the absence of conflict and the absence of generation gaps. The partisan youth activities of the past months have deepened the sense of belonging to Egypt, enriched nationalist feelings, entrenched the loyalty of Egyptian youths to the Arab nation and given them the opportunity to participate in planning their present and their future.

This has been accomplished by making room for collective initiatives aimed at turning the young into a productive force capable of shouldering responsibility, relying on one's self and devoting their idealism, daring and resources to building the Egypt of peace and democracy and to promoting development and progress in all of Egypt. The secretariat has been extremely determined that in the youth activities there should be the awareness of an indispensable fact: that values constitute the basis of society and that man does not live by bread alone, but lives, builds and accomplishes with the sublime principles that he adopts, the ideals that he believes in and the good example set before his eyes and in his mind. The new generations are determined to uphold these values and to turn them into a code of conduct followed day and night in the classroom, the field, the factory, the office and home, because nations are not judged by their material progress and industrial achievement as much as they are judged on the basis of the principles that govern their movement at home and abroad and on the values they adhere to in their dealings and the ability to maintain their cultural genuineness in the face of all pressures and influences. The party made another achievement for women then the president [applause] decided to allocate 30 seats for women in the People's Assembly.

The women's secretariat carried out a large-scale campaign to urge women in the countryside and urban areas to enter their names in the election lists to ensure that they play their role as citizens exercising political action side by side with men.

Perhaps one of the most colossal achievements of the party in the past period was the major action carried out by the party's parliamentary body, particularly following the emergence of the Consultative Council and its discharging of its national message in conjunction with the People's Assembly in a spirit of brotherhood, cooperation and loyalty to Egypt.

The NDP parliamentary body has undertaken to move on three interconnected axes. The first is the deepening of democracy, the second is the bolstering of the peace process and the third is the building of prosperity. The parliamentary body has instituted many basic laws in vital sectors. Furthermore, it has exerted a major effort in the field of fact-finding and in the area of matters related to public order and national unity. I mention at this point the commendable efforts which the People's Assembly has exerted concerning the bar association, the protection of national unity and the fight against sectarian sedition [applause]. In its first session, the Consultative Council studied two subjects of considerable significance. These are the subjects of manpower planning and its connection with the policy of education and training, and the subject of the public sector. This study was concluded with the formulation of specific proposals to which the NDP government and the other executive institutions will devote great interest. The organizational secretariat has played a major role in forming the NDP committees, down to the base, and in extending NDP activities to the villages and residential quarters since the NDP strengthened its position in the governorates and cities. We are proud that the party membership, which totals 1.5 million, does not merely represent a number. It unveils the great popularity which the NDP now enjoys among the masses. The reason for this popularity is that the NDP has adopted the masses' causes and problems and it has begun to express with strength their ambitions and aspirations. The NDP is expressing these things in accordance with the principle of a selfless commitment to national action, not because it is the party in power.

Mr President, this is the modest record of the achievements made by the NDP since the convening of its first session. We submit this record to our great people in full awareness of the immense responsibility that we shoulder and of the national trust that we hold in response to our ideology and faith. Our way of discharging the trust is our reliance on almighty God, our absolute confidence in God's leadership, our belief that every step we take on the path of righteousness augurs well, and our sincere readiness to give from ourselves for our nation and to work diligently for our cherished Egypt. "And say: "Work (righteousness); soon will God observe your work, and his apostle, and the believers." [Koranic verse]

'Ali Speech

NC282056 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1658 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Speech by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali to the Second National Congress of the National Democratic Party on 28 September 1981 -- live in linkup with Cairo transmitters]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful: His Excellency, believing President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, brother and sister members of the general congress: Today, I will deal in your presence with the foreign policy of the Arab Republic of Egypt. Before I mention the landmarks and achievements of our foreign policy, allow me to make a quick reference to the constant strategic principles of Egypt's foreign policy, as they have been expressed and entrenched by the constitution and by popular consensus in the referendums held recently in the wake of the glorious corrective revolution.

These principles can be summed up as follows:

Consolidating national security, national interests and economic prosperity.

Seeking to achieve peace based on justice under whose aegis political and social progress can be achieved for all the peoples.

Integrating political freedom and social freedom with national independence, national affiliation and the international character of mankind's struggle to emancipate man in the political, economic, cultural and intellectual domains.

Establishing a connection with the Arab nation in its capacity is the first sphere of Egyptian political action as an expression of objective, cultural and strategic realities and also of the vital, fateful and common interests of Egypt and the Arab world.

Devoting complete attention to the rights of the Palestinian people and to their freedom in determining their own fate and in setting up their state on their territories which were occupied in 1967.

We live as one of the Third World states -- which include well over 2/3 of mankind. In the wake of the Bandung Conference, the 60's were the epoch of political independence. The 70's and the 80's are the epochs of deepening independence, achieving economic growth and seeking the means for cooperation among the developing states.

Egypt's aligning with Africa and its struggle for African solidarity as well as Egypt's participation in the founding of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] make it incumbent on Egypt, while also bearing in mind the same interests and goals, to embark on joint action at the bilateral and international levels with the African states.

In view of Egypt's role as a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement and due to the strength Egypt derives from these states' moves and from sharing these states' hopes pinned on development and on just conditions for international dealings, Egypt devotes a full and continuing attention to abiding by the principles Egypt laid down with the founding members of the Nonaligned Movement.

Egypt has for a long time played a role in serving the objectives of the Islamic nation. Egypt is also trying to unify the ranks of the Islamic states. Therefore, Egypt is continuing to play its role of backing the efforts exerted by these states for the sake of achieving development as well as supporting their independence.

Brother and sister members of the congress, from the premise of these principles, Egypt has received the decade of the 80's with a political program including integrated internal and external parts (?on the basis) of creating an atmosphere of peace and stability which will enable Egypt and the states of the area to channel their material and manpower resources to the process of comprehensive development. In view of the grinding economic crises that have been facing the world over the past few years, comprehensive development has become a question of absolute priority for the peoples of the Third World.

Vis-a-vis its responsibilities for its nation and its area, and in the post-June 1967 era, Egyptian policy was based on two basic rules: First, leading the Arab nation in a military action that would restore for the Arab nation its dignity in the wake of successive defeats by Israel since 1948. In addition, this military action would end Israel's long-arm policy aimed at controlling an expansive geographical area.

Egypt crowned this move with the October, Ramadan, 1973 war [applause] and what it imposed [words indistinct].

The restoration of the Palestinian people's rights after the recurring wars in the region proved that the military solution is not the way to make peace. On a par with the October 1973 war, the president made his courageous initiative by visiting Jerusalem -- a visit that was made in order to terminate the suffering of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and move seriously to attain a just solution of the Palestinian problem in a way that will ensure putting the Palestinians on the road to establishing their own state, solving the problem of the evacuees and [word indistinct] and putting an end to the Israeli policy of taking over the occupied territories and creating a fait accompli.

We agreed in the Camp David agreement to place the occupied territories in a transitional status by means of which control of these territories would be transferred to the Palestinians residing in the West Bank and Gaza [word indistinct].

During the autonomy talks, Egypt reiterated its concepts, namely, that autonomy is not an end in itself, but a [word indistinct] phase that will lead to Palestinian self-determination. President Anwar as-Sadat's moves as well as recent Egyptian diplomatic moves and President as-Sadat's meetings with President Reagan and [words indistinct] whether this refers to America's role in [word indistinct] in the tripartite talks. [passage indistinct] during these meetings I proposed the main bases that would help achieve a real and overall peace in the region. [words indistinct] to achieve mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians [word indistinct] of the Palestinians in their national state; to make efforts for a cease-fire in Lebanon.

The Israeli prime minister's visit to Alexandria at the end of August was an opportunity for Egypt to reiterate the [word indistinct] of a just solution of the Palestinian problem -- starting with full autonomy as a transitory phase leading to self-determination. During his talks with the Israeli prime minister, the president affirmed the importance of mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians to expedite the establishment of peace and the solution of the Palestinian problem. He also stressed the importance of developing the cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians in Lebanon in all its latent dimensions and significance. Furthermore, he said that a just and overall peace must be achieved throughout the region. [Words indistinct] that Egypt must pursue the dialogue within the Camp David framework in its real sense and prepare the Palestinians to safeguard their cause. It was agreed during these negotiations to resume the autonomy talks on 23 September.

In this new round of negotiations that ended about 3 days ago in which the United States, Egypt and Israel participated, agreement was reached on resuming the talks for full autonomy for the Palestinians and the problems that ("should be taken into consideration") by the three parties to reach agreement on autonomy in accordance to the clauses stipulated in the Camp David agreements. The three sides also agreed to [words indistinct].

Now I must outline our stance vis-a-vis Jerusalem, because it has national, political and [word indistinct] connotations to our Arab and Islamic nation.

Egypt's principled stand is that the eastern sector of Jerusalem, which Israel occupied in June 1967, is an indivisible part of the West Bank [applause] to which all principles to be reached regarding the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will apply. We have abided by this position with Israel and the United States as part of our international efforts on the subject, whether at the United Nations or at international conferences or in our bilateral relations.

While Egypt insists on its position and [word indistinct] for the restoration of all Arab rights to the eastern sector of Jerusalem, it is open to any (?effort) that will realize the achievement of positive results. In addition to its Arab character, Jerusalem has Islamic and Christian links. Hence, the president's (?appeal) to the European parliament last February to join the efforts to achieve a settlement of the problem in a manner that would make Jerusalem a model of brotherhood, unity and [word indistinct].

Mr President, brother and sister members of the congress, at the end of my remarks about the Egyptian diplomatic activity for the main Arab issue -- the issue of the fraternal Palestinian people, which represents the crux of the issue of peace in the area -- I would like to point out that in its activities over the past 3 years Egypt has [word indistinct] important basis which apply to the settlement of the remaining parts of the Arab [word indistinct] issue. These are: The entry of the U.S. side, in its capacity as the principal factor that influences Israeli decision, as a full partner in the negotiations; the dismantling of the settlements; the withdrawal to the international borders; the possibility of peaceful coexistence and the establishment of normal relations among the peoples of the area; and the international guarantees for the security of all parties.

By liberating the Sinai and on the basis it has established for the liberation of the remaining Arab territories, Egyptian diplomatic activities have added strategic dimensions to the Arab position. Egyptian diplomacy has been able to introduce the Palestinian issue into every house in Europe and the United States and to make people feel the importance of taking part in settling it and the extent of its influence on their vital interests in the area.

Brothers, as we are on the thresholds of the complete liberation of the Sinai and the restoration of the last part of its soil on 25 April 1982, God willing, Egyptian diplomacy has succeeded, by virtue of international backing and support, to (?establish) the Multinational Peacekeeping Force. The agreement on this force was submitted to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council and it was approved last month. This was done after many states expressed their readiness to contribute to the formation of this force in order to achieve the complete withdrawal on schedule and to create the necessary atmosphere for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the area.

Egypt sought to give the United Nations the chance to assume its natural role in the peacekeeping process. It held intensive contacts with the president and members of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general, and requested the formation of a UN force to supervise peace between Egypt and Israel. But the threat of the Soviet Union, supported by the Arab rejectionist forces, to use its veto right prevented the council from assuming its duties. We still hope that the United Nations will be able to assume its role in keeping the peace in the area and in the future to assume supervision of the Sinai force.

During the negotiating rounds on the protocol for the establishment of the multinational force, Egypt stressed its full and unconditional right to exercise its complete sovereignty over all parts of the Sinai up to its international borders and the right of the state institutions, including [word indistinct] customs, passports and so forth, to exist in all parts of Sinai. Specific details have been worked out for the exercise of the force's duties within the framework of full cooperation with the Egyptian authorities and under their supervision in confirmation of the principle of full Egyptian sovereignty over the Sinai. It has also been decided that the size and armaments level of the force will be limited. For your information, the size of the force agreed upon is about one third of the size of the UN emergency forces that existed in the Sinai following the 1956 war and until 1967.

As far as the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel is concerned, which accompanied the phased Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, the Egyptian side has abided by the agreement contained in the Camp David accord and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty in the political, economic and cultural domains. A set of agreements specifying the framework for dealings between the two sides has been concluded. Egypt will continue to observe its commitments in this respect out of its belief that coexistence and peaceful relations among the peoples of this area are prerequisites for prosperity, security and stability.

Mr President, brother members, the present Arab situation and the conflicts and confrontations simmering among the Arab states within the framework of this situation are a reflection of the nature of the phase through which this area is passing. This phase represents a transition from the type of relations that prevailed prior to the Egyptian peace initiative to the new line in the process of formation. There can be no doubt that the differences raging among the Arab states on the program for directing the Arab-Israeli conflict is not the reason for the things the Arab scene is witnessing. However, these differences are considered one of the factors, which is added to other factors with historic roots. Examples of these roots are the aspirations to leadership which befall some Arab states; differences on the ideological bases of government systems; the gap in the wealth between the states with an oil surplus and those experiencing population explosions; the divisions stemming from nationalist affiliations as well as other sectarian, ideological and religious affiliations; border disputes; and the expansionist inclinations of some people in the Arab levant and Maghreb, in addition to the change in the distribution of the factors of power coupled with the emergence of the element of economic strength represented by the oil-producing states.

The (proliferation) of slogans raised for so long in Arab politics have also prevented these states from laying down real and fixed foundations for a unified Arab strategy in the political and economic domains. This development has also left its effect on the differences and conflicts now raging on the Arab scene.

The Soviet Union has polarized the Tripoli rejectionist group and it has also attempted to outflank Egypt's moves. This resulted in the imposition of the policy of this group on Arab action toward Egypt in the post-Camp David phase, as was clearly illustrated in the results of the Baghdad summit of March 1979. However, the political vacuum that gripped the Arab states since they alienated themselves from Egypt and the active factors of instability within these states have induced them to try to rid themselves of the restrictions of the negativism imposed on them.

When the Amman summit met around the end of last year, the Arab moderates led by Saudi Arabia emerged to end the Syrian-Libyan veto imposed on the Arab movements for peace.

Despite the magnitude assumed by the Arab ordeal and despite the moves which have been made through the alliances existing in the area and aimed at isolating the Arab nation from Egypt, which is the source of real Arab strength, Egypt has resolutely continued to pursue its policy line for the sake of the Arab causes and issues. In this respect, I desire to note the following: Egypt wants to ensure Arab solidarity and detente. It also wants to end conflicts and differences among the brothers in a manner that ensures the concentration of efforts on the task of confronting the challenges facing our nation, be they political or economic challenges. This is why an immediate response was made to President Numayri's 25 May initiative calling for a comprehensive Arab summit conference. Egypt will always bless any sincere call for the unification of strength.

The Arab brothers have responded with emotional outbursts and hurled abuse at their elder sister, Egypt, in the various fields over the past 3 years. There can be no doubt that the record of these abuses compiled by Egypt, and Egypt is prepared to submit this record to any meeting for frank consideration, will leave a twinge of pain in the heart of every sincere Arab because of the harshness with which Egypt has been confronted. I say that despite all these things, Egypt has worked ardently for the sake of Arab interests, for defending these interests, for pooling international resources to back these interests and for backing the Arab nation's just causes.

The cause of the fraternal Palestinian people weighs on the conscience of every Egyptian and is the pivot of the Egyptian leadership's activity. This leadership has sought to achieve the Israeli civilian and military withdrawal from Palestinian territory occupied in 1967 -- the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem, which is part of the West Bank -- and establish Palestinian autonomy for an interim period after which there will be self-determination.

For the first time in the history of the cause, Egyptian diplomacy has achieved Israeli recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and a commitment to withdraw and establish autonomy.

Egyptian policy is committed to combating polarization in the area and defending any Arab or Islamic state in the face of any threat to its interests, soil and territorial integrity. Egypt's sacrifices for the sake of the Arab brothers and its participation in the building of every state through its sons and potentials will continue despite all circumstances and obstacles.

Before ending my comments on the Arab situation, it pleases me to refer to several positive developments that have appeared in the Arab arena in the past few months. One of these important developments was the president's visit to Sudan on 25 May 1981 and then President Numayri's visit to Egypt in July 1981. The two visits resulted in speeding up the implementation of the program for political action and economic integration agreed upon between our two countries on 11 February 1974. President Numayri then began to act to restore Arab solidarity, and President as-Sadat announced in Khartoum Egypt's support for this activity.

Other positive factors that have appeared on the Arab scene are the complete and close cooperation between Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman, the (?fragmentation) of the Arab rejectionist forces and the positive direction of the Saudi role. We hope that the (?proposals) put forward by Saudi Arabia at the beginning of last August will be taken into the (?equation) of the settlement of the Palestinian problem. These proposals do not differ from what Egypt advocates with regard to the practical moves aimed at an urgent settlement of the Palestinian problem and at bolstering the peace process in the region. They complete what Egypt has been seeking since 1976 to the present for the sake of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights. Egypt has high hopes that the leaders of the fraternal Arab countries will -- in no time -- realize that their isolation from Egypt will greatly harm their countries' interests, the Arab issue and the overall peace process in the region.

Mr. President, brother members, throughout its history and ever since the first years of the Islamic conquests, Egypt has been carrying out a vanguard role in safeguarding and defending Islam. From Egypt, groups of conquerors set out bearing the message of Islam to northern Africa and Andalusia [word indistinct]. Egypt did not only defend Islam militarily but it also safeguarded the soil of Islam and revived its teachings. For more than 1,000 years now the Al-Azhar has been the bastion of Islam and a university of its teachings and sciences. [applause]

If Egypt's Islamic role has been ordained by God to be its destiny, its history and its honor, then Egypt is still playing this role and carrying out its mission of leadership in the Arab and Islamic world. The decisions that were taken in various [word indistinct] and under tendencious pressure to freeze Egypt's membership in the Islamic Conference after it signed of the peace treaty with Israel have not succeeded in shunting Egypt's leading role in Islamic activities. They have only succeeded in making the Islamic Conference from which Egypt is absent an example of confusion, imbalance, blindness, and [word indistinct]. In view of the bickering among some of the Islamic world's leaders, Egypt has preferred not to undermine its activities with regard to its Islamic work due to the negative factors imposed by the force of circumstances. Therefore, Egypt has sidestepped these circumstances and called for the establishment of the Arab and Islamic People's League [applause] so that it will constitute a live and contemporary embodiment of the close ties [among Muslims] advocated by Al-Afghani in order to unify the Islamic people.

Egypt today is almost the only country among the Islamic and Arab states extending serious and genuine assistance to the heroic Afghan people in their brave resistance [applause] against the Soviet invasion, despite the fact that such a position exposes it to the hostility and pressures of a big power, which is the Soviet Union. It is no secret that Egypt is training Afghan insurgents and supplying them with weapons, equipment and medicine [applause]. It is doing all this out of its genuine faith in its Islamic role and its realization that the Soviet danger, which began in Afghanistan, will not stop there. Therefore, confronting it and stopping it in Afghanistan is a necessary condition for protecting the Arab Gulf and Iran and the Arab and Islamic world behind them.

Brother members of the NDP Congress, Africa occupies a special priority in the interests of Egyptian foreign policy out of Egypt's geographic affiliation with this continent as well as the old historic relations between Egypt and African countries and the links of the unity of fate, aim and common interests. The principles and foundations of our African policy are represented by safeguarding Egypt's supreme national interests and refusal to harm them. This basically concerns our rights to Nile water. This makes it necessary to continue a constant framework of relations with the Nile basin countries and to strengthen and activate the technical committees and organs in charge of the Nile's waters. From this premise, we welcome President Numayri's call to convene a conference of the presidents of the Nile countries. In addition, we are acting to avoid the African Continent becoming involved in the conflict between the big powers, refuse to allow it to be divided into zones of influence and reject foreign interference in African affairs, both direct or through agent states.

We are acting to assist the African countries economically and technically and to provide them with Egyptian expertise. Proceeding from this, the Egyptian fund for technical assistance to Africa was established in the Foreign Ministery last year. This fund is aimed at providing technical aid to the African countries represented in sending experts from various fields and contributing to economic, social and cultural development projects. Our African policy is based on helping these countries ensure their security when necessary. Egypt implemented this policy in Kinshasa when the Shaba crisis arose in 1978. Egypt is now helping the African countries surrounding Chad to confront the possibilities of Libyan aggression backed by the Soviets. This is within the framework of the Organization of African Unity and various resolutions.

In addition to the aid Egypt has offered to its fraternal African countries, these countries have turned to Egypt in the issues that concern them. This was manifest in the rejection by African countries of pressure and influence exerted by the rejectionist countries to boycott Egypt and suspend its membership in the OAU. The fraternal African countries announced with resolve that they refused to suspend Egypt's membership in the OAU. These countries have cooperated in other international forums to foil hostile attempts by the rejectionist front. These countries have cooperated in other international forums to foil hostile attempts by the rejectionist front. The most obvious example is the honorable stand these countries adopted at the New Delhi Nonaligned Conference emphasizing Egypt's membership and its role in the Nonaligned Movement.

Mr President, brother congress members, Egypt is interested and determined to continue to adhere to the policy of nonalignment and to continue to play its pioneering role in the movement. In doing so, it proceeds from its faith that the policy of nonalignment fulfills its national interests and spares it the danger of slipping toward polarization and subservience to one of the two blocs. This is why it employs its weight and influence to help rectify the course of the Nonaligned Movement by offering a realistic and specific concept of the policy of nonalignment in light of the changing international conditions and the security and economic needs of the movement's member states.

Congress members, the early 70's witnessed trends of change in Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union and the United States affecting the nature and the substance that characterized these relations for 15 years resulting in policies and attitudes which had the greatest effect on Egypt's domestic affairs and regional and international relations.

On the relations with the Soviet Union, the changes began with Egypt's decision to do away with the Soviet experts. The main significance of this decision [applause] [sentence left incomplete as 'Ali appears to be talking to someone] Yes, all right.

With the United States, Egypt began to open bridges of dialogue, including the readiness to put an end to the confrontation and tension which had governed relations between the two countries for a long time.

The new Egyptian-U.S. relations have forced the Soviet Union to reverse direction. It considered the Egyptian-U.S. cooperation for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict as an attempt to keep it out of the settlement procedure. Consequently, a series of reciprocal reactions began between Egypt and the Soviet Union as a result of which the state of the relations between the two countries deteriorated in all spheres.

Thus, Egypt begins the 80's with relations on an advanced basis with the United States and with a joint desire to maintain them and with relations existing with the Soviet Union, albeit its policies and actions in our area and toward us do not give these relations the necessary healthy atmosphere for their development in a manner which Egypt desires -- relations based on mutual respect and noninterference in domestic affairs.

Mr President, respectable members, as the 80's depict dedication to peace, prosperity and coexistence among nations, Egyptian diplomacy is continuously present at all international levels. Recently, I and my colleague Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali visited several states of north and western Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia. The purpose of these visits was to bolster relations and contacts between Egypt and these states and to explain the latest developments in the region and Egypt's efforts for a just and lasting peace.

Last week I returned from a tour of a number of friendly Asian states during which we exchanged views on means of intensifying international activity in support of the peace efforts started by Egypt. The meetings with the political leaderships of Thailand, Singapore, China, the DPRK and Japan produced several positive results in the political and economic domains. My visits clearly reflected the extent of the deep respect for Egypt and its president. Perhaps, with these moves, which covered countries with extremely opposite social and political systems ranging from extreme right to extreme left, we have supplied the proof that Eygpt, which some imagined they could isolate internationally, is still as usual enjoying freedom of political movement and freedom of will, and that its positive policy based on right, justice and sound logic enjoys the admiration of the whole world community, irrespective of its divergent social systems and trends.

There is no doubt that the president's forthcoming visit to Japan and China -- the officials of these two countries have said they are eagerly awaiting the visit because they expect extremely important results -- will undoubtedly form a strong basis for Egypt's relations with these two states which wield enormous political and economic influence.

In reviewing the efforts of Egyptian diplomacy in the recent period, I must also refer to the visit which my colleague Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, made to the Vatican, where he handed the pope a message from the president. The message had a great impact on his holiness and was met with a great welcome by Vatican quarters, whether in regard to the Vatican's support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and its interest in the establishment of peace in the area or in regard to the invitation extended to his holiness the pope to attend the inauguration of the complex of three religions in Wadi ar-Rahah [in the Sinai] next hear, God willing.

Mr President, brother members, the foreign policy of any state expresses the vital interests of that state and its efforts to achieve its national goals. At the same time, such a policy is the outcome of the real forces of that state and is a true reflection of the strength and cohesion of its domestic front.

Egypt, in view of its strategic position and its national and historic circumstances, is a crossroads for various tendencies and trends that agree sometimes and clash at others. Consequently, out of necessity Egyptian diplomacy shoulders the responsibility of implementing a foreign policy of many dimensions and intermingled interests on a framework of a world balance characterized by extreme sensitivity toward all that happens in our region.

Guided by the instructions of the president, Egyptian foreign policy has been able to play its role in preserving our strategic interests in the political and economic spheres and to maintain a freedom of movement in the face of the attempts [words indistinct].

Egyptian foreign policy will continue to pursue its course to affirm and consolidate the achievements realized bythe peace efforts. May God grant success to all of us to work for promoting the status of this homeland and achieve the prosperity of its people. Blessings to you oh President and blessings to every hand that builds with you Egypt's glory. May God's peace and mercy be with you.

AS-SADAT ISSUES MESSAGE ON INTERNAL SECURITY

NC290910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 29 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Sep (MENA) -- President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has affirmed that Egypt with its security and peace has stood high in a divided world and in an area destroyed by civil war and internal strife. These wars are provoked by hostile forces, seeking to destroy our religion and antagonize all heavenly religions.

In his message to the AL-'URWAH AL-WUTHQA magazine, which publishes its fourth edition Wednesday, President as-Sadat said: Egypt is the bastion of peace, the house of Koranic studies and the basis of Arabism -- Muslims and Christians. The Egyptians -- Muslims and Christians -- are one element united by one national homeland and are working as one man to build their internal and external strength.

His excellency said: Throughout history Egypt has served as an example of national unity, without racism or sectarian fanaticism. The nobility of affiliation to the homeland has been and still is the protective shield against which the attempts of enemies and agents have been crushed and are being crushing.

His excellency added: Deriving our true faith from God, our message has been manifested in the most splendid manner in our consensus to overcome the obstacles and the suspect attempts of the deviators at home and the enemies abroad, and in this way we can build the society of (?faith), peace and prosperity.

DEFENSE COOPERATION TO BE DEVELOPED WITH UK

PM281203 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 28 Sep 81 p 4

[Nabila Megalli dispatch: "British Aid for Egypt's Defence"]

[Text] Cairo -- A delegation of senior Egyptian army officers will visit the British Army of the Rhine as part of developing defence cooperation between the two countries.

The broad outlines of cooperation were mapped out during the recent visit to Cairo by Mr John Nott, defence secretary.

"It could be the beginning of a new era in Anglo-Egyptian relations," British and Egyptian sources said yesterday.

One of the sources forecast Britain helping Egypt become a major arsenal that could cater for a good slice of the Middle East arms market in "three to four years."

"Britain is becoming a major supplier of equipment for the Egyptian Armed Forces in order to support the anti-Soviet strategy," said a British source close to the talks which Mr Nott held in Egypt.

Egypt wants "diversification" of its military supply sources to be able to claim its relative independence of superpowers. This policy started after the Soviet embargo on arms and spare parts to Egypt in 1974.

Britain has already helped Egypt develop parts for hundreds of Soviet tanks that would otherwise have gone scrap in the face of the Soviet embargo. Egypt is interested in the light British tank, the Scorpion.

REPORTAGE ON MILITARY CONFRONTATIONS WITH IRAN

Communique 471: 24 Sep

JN241719 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Sep (INA) -- Our armed forces have killed 231 Iranians and destroyed 7 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 16 vehicles, 5 guns and other equipment. Communique No 471 issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command put our losses at 33 martyrs in all sectors as well as 3 tanks, 1 vehicle and 1 mortar damaged. The communique stated that the Persian enemy this afternoon shelled the Basra area with heavy artillery. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 471 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Iraq's cavaliers, the sons of our valiant armed forces, continued to strike at the treacherous racist Persian enemy in all the operations sectors. Following is the outcome of the activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units continued to strike at enemy concentrations and positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, killing 14 and destroying 1 tank, 1 vehicle, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 1 observation post. In yesterday's battle, the enemy sustained the following losses in the same area: 192 killed and 6 tanks; 4 armored personnel carriers; 11 vehicles, 3 loaded with hardware and 3 others carrying charlatan Khomeyni guards; and three guns. Our forces seized three serviceable rocket launchers of the (Strela) type.
B. Six killed and two guns, two stockpiles of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Abadan area.
C. Seven killed in the Ahvaz area.
D. Five killed and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Dezful area.
E. Four killed and three vehicles, one of which was loaded with hardware, destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
F. Two killed in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin.
G. One killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
H. One vehicle loaded with hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
I. Our fighter plans today attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct hits. Our fighter planes returned safely.

Total known enemy losses amount to 231 killed and 7 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 16 vehicles, 5 guns, 1 excavator, 5 stockpiles of hardware, 2 observation posts and 3 rocket launchers of the (Strela) type destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 33 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: three tanks, one vehicle and one mortar damaged.
C. This afternoon, the Persian enemy shelled the Basra area with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 September 1981

Communique 472: 25 Sep

JN251644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Sep (INA)--The Iraqi Armed Forces killed 152 Iranians and destroyed various war materiel during the past 24 hours. Communique No 472 issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that 107 Iranians were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area when the Iraqi forces pounded Iranian enemy concentrations. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 472 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continued to strike at the racist Persian enemy forces in the operational theater. Following is the outcome of the activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Using various types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy concentrations opposite their positions in the Khafajiyah area, killing 107 and destroying 6 vehicles, one loaded with hardware, and 3 guns. Our forces also destroyed five stockpiles of hardware and three observation posts in the same area.
B. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our forward positions in the Dezful area. Our units pounded it, forcing it to retreat, leaving behind 26 dead and 4 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.
C. Ten killed and two vehicles destroyed in the Abadan area.
D. Four killed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. Two killed and one stockpile of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Shush area.
F. Two killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
G. One killed in the Ahvaz area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 152 dead and 8 vehicles, 3 guns, 11 stockpiles of hardware and 6 observation posts.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 15 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle and one gun damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 September 1981

Communique 473: 26 Sep

JN261708 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 81

[Communique No 473 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 September 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our triumphant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units continued to pound with various weapons enemy concentrations in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment put at 69 killed and 4 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, 4 vehicles and 5 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.
B. Enemy concentrations were sighted in front of our forward positions in the Abadan region. They were hit with various weapons, sustaining 22 killed and 1 vehicle destroyed. Four stockpiles of hardware were also destroyed in the same region.
C. Eight killed and three stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Dezful region.
D. Seven killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
E. Two killed in the Mimak region in front of our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
F. One vehicle destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
G. This morning, one enemy fighter plane was shot down in the southern sector of the operations theater.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 108 killed, 4 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, 6 vehicles, 12 stockpiles of hardware and 1 fighter plane.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 11 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one personnel carrier and two vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1981

Communique 474: 27 Sep

JN271749 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Communique No 474 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of Iraq's future and sovereignty and of the Arab nation's dignity, our valiant armed forces continued to attack the racist Persian enemy in the operational theater. Following is the outcome of the activities last night and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. At dawn today, enemy infantry and armored cars attacked our positions in the Abadan area. The troops of Saddam's Qadisiyah stormed the enemy ranks. Fierce fighting with all available weapons was still raging when this communique was prepared. The enemy sustained grave losses in equipment and lives, the known of which were: 28 tanks, 10 armored personnel carriers, 10 vehicles carrying personnel, 4 guns and 3 excavators.
B. Enemy concentrations were sighted opposite our forward units in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd]. Our units pounded the enemy concentrations with various types of arms, killing and destroying 2 tanks, 3 armored personnel carriers, 1 vehicle carrying soldiers, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post. Our units also seized one serviceable gun.

C. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Shush area, forcing them to retreat after killing 18 and destroying 2 vehicles and 1 gun.
D. Five killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the the Nowsud area.
E. Four killed in the Sumar area.
F. Four killed in the Mehran area.
G. Three killed and one vehicle loaded with hardware destroyed in the Dezful area.
H. One killed and one observation post destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
I. Our aid defenses this afternoon shot down an enemy fighter plane in the southern sector of the operational theater.
J. Throughout the day, our fighter planes dealt painful blows to the enemy concentrations in the southern sector, inflicting grave losses on them. Our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 66 killed and 30 tanks, 13 armored personnel carriers, 14 vehicles, 6 guns, 3 excavators, 8 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed. The enemy also lost one fighter plane.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 18 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: three vehicles, three mortars, and one excavator were damaged and one helicopter was shot down.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1981

Communique 475: 28 Sep

JN281735 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Communique No 475 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 28 September 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our Arab nation's men, heroes of our valiant armed forces, fought the racist Persian enemy with unique valor in defense of our people and our holy Iraqi homeland. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Yesterday evening and this morning, our brave forces continued to pound the Persian enemy in the Abadan region fiercely with all weapons, inflicting massive losses in weapons, equipment and personnel. It was not possible to count these losses at the time this communique was prepared.
B. Our capable forward units heavily pounded the enemy concentrations and positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region with all weapons, killing 89 and destroying 6 tanks, 3 vehicles -- 1 of which was carrying charlatan Khomeyni guards -- 2 guns, 11 stockpiles of hardware, 2 armored vehicles and 1 observation post.

C. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward units' positions in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin. Our forces hit it, killing 13 and destroying 1 vehicle and 1 gun.
D. Six killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
E. Four killed in the Nowsud region.
F. Four killed in the Shush region.
G. Two killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
H. One personnel carrier and one vehicle destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
I. One gun, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Dezful region.
J. In a dogfight this morning, our fighter planes downed two enemy fighter planes in the Abadan region.
K. Our aircraft continued their effective raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield all day long day, scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 118 dead, 6 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 5 vehicles, 4 guns, 12 stockpiles of hardware, 2 observation posts, 2 armored vehicles and 2 fighter planes.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 23 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: 18 vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 September 1981

Karun River Strategy

JN281722 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)--An authoritative military spokesman has asserted that the presence of our armed forces east of the Karun River for 1 whole year was in accordance with the general plan at the time.

In a statement to the INA tonight in reply to its question about the Iranian enemy's lies and claims about the force east of the Karun River, the spokesman said that the general command has decided to transfer the Iraqi units from the east to the west of the Karun River. The spokesman reiterated that the valiant Iraqi Army is capable of returning to any spot when its presence there has specific objectives equal to the sacrifices to be offered for their sake. Following is the text of the military spokesman's statement:

Our armed forces were stationed east of the Karun River in accorance with a general plan set at the time. Our armed forces remained there for 1 whole year despite the enemy's deadly attempts to budge them away from their positions. Despite the enemy's desperate attempts against specific positions of our units and despite its many attacks, our valiant units aborted all its attacks both directly or by carrying out counter-attacks on the places which the enemy could reach.

Recently, the enemy inflicted damaged on the bridges we had built on the Karun River, in addition to its counter military activities, which made the general command decide to move the units from east to the west of the Karun River. The enemy and others know well that we are capable of returning to any spot we want to when our presence there has specific objectives equal to the sacrifices offered. The future will prove this as it has been proven in the near past by our great army's victories since the war broke out and until the honorable battle of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

It is natural that every military action taken by the enemy will be accompanied by a lot of lies and claims while facts remain unchanged, despite how the other parties deal with these facts whether truthfully or untruthfully.

Counterattack on Abadan

JN281740 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] London, 28 Sep (INA)--Iranian sources said here today that the main Iranian hospitals are overcrowded with hundreds of casulaties which are being transferred from the Abadan front as a result of the Iraqi counteroffensive. The sources cite Iranian military sources as saying that the number of killed until this morning reach 2,000 and that a state of extreme confusion has gripped the Iranian units following the Iraqi counteroffensive which began at 2300 last night.

RAMADAN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM JAPAN'S SUZUKI

JN281444 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has received a written message from Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki dealing with relations between Iraq and Japan. The message was conveyed by (Masumi Izaki), Diet member and chairman of the budget committee during his meeting with Ramadan at noon today. (Masumi) also conveyed Japan's desire to strengthen relations between the two countries in the various fields.

During the meeting, Ramadan expressed satisfaction over the outcome of his talks with Japanese officials during his recent visit to Japan, adding that this would contribute to developing bilateral cooperation. He praised the role being played by the Japanese companies in implementing development projects in Iraq.

Ramadan explained to the visiting delegation Iraq's positive position toward the good offices to end the Iraqi-Iranian conflict that would guarantee recognition of Iraq's just and pan-Arab rights.

The meeting was attended by the Japanese ambassador in Baghdad.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN DELIVERS SPEECH TO UN

JN282003 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] United Nations -- His Highness Crown Prince Hasan said in a speech at the UN General Assembly today that the core of the Middle East crisis lies in the tragedy of the Palestinian people and their occupied territories. His highness said that Israel was not content with evicting the Palestinian people from their land, but it persisted on its schemes aimed at changing the features of the Palestinian and Arab land it occupied as a result of the 1967 aggression. Israel planted this land with settlements after seizing the Arab private and public land and the natural water resources in the service of the Israeli settlers.

His highness said that Israel is defying international law by its policy aimed at judaizing and annexing Jerusalem. He also pointed out Israel's arbitrary practices against Arab citizens, including collective punishment, demolition of houses, deportation of national leaders and physical liquidation.

Alluding to the unlimited U.S. aid to Israel, his highness said that the continued U.S. aid to Israel is taking place on the pretext of the U.S. commitment toward Israel's security. It is an ambiguous slogan and the Americans have thus far failed to define its limits and dimensions.

In his speech, the crown prince said that Israel's continued defiance of the international will and legality is due to the unlimited military, political and economic aid given and still being given by some countries, particularly the United States which has enabled Israel to go on in occupying Arab land, challenging the international will and UN resolutions and spreading instability and security imbalance in the area.

His highness added that this unlimited ceaseless aid had enabled Israel to expand its circle of aggression in the area. Within a short period of time, Israel has done the following:

First, it annexed Arab Jeruslaem to the Zionist entity despite international opposition and world denunciation.

Second, it started digging a canal linking the Mediterranean with the Dead Sea. This constitutes an extension of the aggressive and expansionist trend and would cause grave damages to the economic installations and vital interests of the Hashmite Kingdom of Jordan and its national sovereignty. This project, which Israel intends to implement, represents a source of a direct threat to the area's security and safety. Furthermore, this project constitutes a violation of the Palestinian rights.

Third, Israel's continued intervention in Lebanon has exacerbated the sufferings of this fraternal country.

Fourth, Israel's violation of all the international laws and norms as manifested by its raid on the peaceful Iraqi military installations last June.

His highness the crown prince added: In the face of this aggressive Israeli trend is a sincere Jordanian and Arab trend toward establishing peace based on justice. Jordan, which has directly experienced the dimensions and circumstances of the Palestinian issue and people and shouldered -- as dictated by its Arab roots and pan-Arab commitments -- all the repercussions of this problem which was created by the unjust international practices, has expressed -- along with its Arab brothers -- support for all the international efforts pertaining to the Palestinian issue and the Middle East problem.

Jordan also welcomed the Soviet call for convening an international conference to discuss the issue with the participation of all the sides concerned in the dispute, including the PLO, which will participate in the conference on equal footing with the other sides in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan also asserted that the Arab summit conferences have proved that the Arabs demand the establishment of right, justice and peace and are exerting all possible efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In his speech to the international organization, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan called for working to establish a new human international order that will dictate the relations of the international community. His highness pointed out that such an order should be given equal care, backing, time and efforts as those given to the economic and other fields.

Commenting on the current world situation, his highness said: A penetrating look at current world events clearly shows the vast abyss separating the large majority of people yearning for a world in which peace and justice prevail and those believing only in force and de facto policy. His highness pointed out that the absence of ethical commitments and the failure to seek stability through peaceful methods increases these powers' dependence on their supply of destructive weapons.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan asserted that Jordan is completely prepared to cooperate with the international organization's General Assembly in crystallizing and implementing this idea.

His highness the crown prince referred to Israel's policy whose goal is to impose hegemony, expansion and aggression the region. He pointed out that Israel refuses to sign the non-proliferation treaty and will not allow the specialized international organization to inspect its nuclear installations.

His highness the crown prince added: We in the region look up to the United Nations and its charter as a sound framework through which any arrangements for making the Middle East a denuclearized region should be made, since this would put an end to the Israeli nuclear program and its evil goals and spare the region the calamities resulting from the use of such destructive weapons.

His highness' speech was welcomed by the international group. Sources of the international organization said that some delegations approached the UN Secretariat, stressing the need for drafting his highness proposal to establish an international human order into a serious project to be submitted for approval by the UN General Assembly.

ABU 'AWDAH SCOFFS AT BEGIN'S 'CONFEDERATION' IDEA

JN290640 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Sep 81

[Text] Replying to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's idea about the establishment of a confederation between Jordan and Israel to solve the West Bank problem, Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah said yesterday that this is a ridiculous proposal and a meaningless idea.

Abu 'Awdah added that the establishment of peace between Egypt and Israel does not give Israel the right to ask for the establishment of federations with other Arab states. The Middle East problem is not to know if Israel wants to establish federations with its neighbors, but to know if Israel truly wants peace in the area.

VOL REPORTS CAR BOMBING IN SOUTH 28 SEP

NC281301 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Today, a booby-trapped car exploded in the (Aj-Jirariyah) area in the south, causing 12 casualties, dead and wounded. The military expert has estimated that an explosive charge of 15 kg of TNT was mixed with incendiary material. The (Aj-Jirariyah) town had, in the past, been the scene of clashes between Amal and the communists.

Preliminary reports on the dead and wounded indicate that 10 Palestinians were killed. These reports also indicate that about 20 people were wounded--including some Lebanese.

AFP reports that two booby-trapped cars exploded this morning near a roadblock belonging to Palestinian leftists near Al-Qasimiyah River. AFP adds that the two explosions killed 6 persons and wounded about 50.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES MEMBER CALLS FOR USSR TREATY

PM281037 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 23 Sep 81 p 19

[Amin as-Siba'i interview with Fu'ad at-Tahini, secretary general of the National Struggle Front and member of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies -- place, date not given]

[Excerpts] On the eve of the Arab followup committee's meeting at the Republican Palace on 6 September, Secretary General of the National Struggle Front Deputy Fu'ad at-Tahini outlined to the president of the republic and Lebanese officials and politicians a political plan calling for the conclusion of a treaty between Lebanon and the Soviet Union to protect Lebanon and ensure its continued existence as a sovereign state in the face of the danger of an Israeli invasion and occupation.

The National Struggle Front secretary general said that the United States will not protect Lebanon and that the Arab states must either oust Israel or themselves leave the United Nations and cut off oil supplies to states which support Israel before Lebanon vanishes completely and formulas of partition and settlement [of Palestinians in Lebanon] are imposed on it and its people.

Deputy at-Tahini urged the government to conclude a treaty with the Soviets before Lebanon is lost in the labyrinth of the expected [national] accord or a new Yalta is concluded between the United States and the Soviet Union.

AL-HAWADITH: Your recent proposal conflicts with the hopes pinned, especially by the government, on the Arab followup committee and the Arab summit conference; it also prejudges these two means, which are supposed to support a solution, as having failed. What are the reasons for this?

Fu'ad at-Tahini: In supporting the [Arab followup] committee, some Arab states and big powers aim at achieving a broad easing of the security situation since the achievement of [national] accord during the present phase is encountering great difficulties because a solution to the Palestinian issue cannot be found. The government's call for a special Arab summit to discuss the issue of the south is rash because the Arab states are not prepared to draw up a political or a defensive strategy. Disagreements are ripe among the Arab states and they are not even considering military confrontation of Israel.

Were the Arab states free to act, they would have realized conclusively that, on the political level, the United States accepts nothing short of capitulation and weakness for the Arabs since Israel, in U.S. eyes, has been and will continue to be its main base in the Middle East, defending its strategic and oil interests.

AL-HAWADITH: The summary you have just made necessitates that we talk about the plan you alluded to in your private meetings recently and in which you called on the government to conclude a military treaty between Lebanon and the Soviet Union.

Fu'ad at-Tahini: With regard to the military aspect, I say that the unified Arab strategy that Lebanon is urging cannot be achieved -- basically because the necessary atmosphere of Arab solidarity is lacking. It would be better for Lebanon, which supports the Palestinian issue but cannot prevent the fedayeen from staging their operations from its territories, to request the protection of a big power like the Soviet Union, for example, to protect its territory.

AL-HAWADITH: Meaning the conclusion of a written treaty?

Fu'ad at-Tahini: Yes. We now have before us two alternatives: Either we ourselves preserve our territorial integrity and Lebanon's existence on the map of the world or we accept Soviet protection with all the dangers this entails -- dangers some believe could affect our political and economic system. It is my opinion that, in the state in which Lebanon is now wallowing, priority should be given to ensuring the existence of a united Lebanon. As for the question of ideologies, this could be discussed later -- that is, after we have preserved the continued existence of a country called Lebanon.

AL-HAWADITH: But don't some Lebanese view the conclusion of such a treaty as a gateway leading to the spread of communism in Lebanon?

Fu'ad at-Tahini: I do not share the view of those who say that such a treaty would lead to the spread of communism in Lebanon because Syria, which earlier concluded a treaty with the Soviet Union, has not become a communist state, nor have Iraq, Egypt or others.

AL-HAWADITH: Some also believe that the conclusion of such a treaty would increase divisions among the Lebanese.

Fu'ad At-Tahini: Some factions in the Lebanese front earlier proposed the conclusion of such a treaty with the Soviet Union after they despaired of the stand of the United States, which has always paid lipservice to Lebanon's continued existence and unity through the U.S. plan, as we all know, has since 1975 aimed at finding a solution to the Middle East issue at the expense of Lebanon and its territory.

AL-HAWADITH: But this kind of treaty would, some believe, thrust Lebanon into a war of international axes.

Fu'ad at-Tahini: We are already in the middle of the conflict of international axes. What I fear most of all is the conclusion of a new Malta and Lebanon finding itself abandoned by the two superpowers. It is for this reason that I have proposed that an initiative be taken now to ally with the superpower most likely to protect Lebanon's existence and territory.

AL-WAZZAN ON TIES WITH SYRIA, PALESTINIANS

JN281016 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Damascus, 28 Sep (SANA) -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has asserted that Lebanon -- people and government -- is grateful to President Hafiz al-Asad for his courageous stand and friendship toward Lebanon in its tribulation.

In an interview in today's TISHRIN, Al-Wazzan said: The unique relationship between Syria and Lebanon is a foregone conclusion and is felt by every Lebanese and Syrian.

The Lebanese Government, Al-Wazzan pointed out, was formed on the basis of achieving complete coordination with Syria. Lebanon is linked with Syria and the Palestinian resistance by a special and distinguishing bond, he said.

The Lebanese prime minister explained that the Lebanese working paper submitted to the Arab followup committee alludes to this relationship and stresses the need to regulate and strengthen it in all fields, especially with regard to security. He said: Our objective has been, and will continue to be, that no part of Lebanon shall be the center for plots or harmful activities against fraternal Syria.

Al-Wazzan added: We must protect Syria's security, and Syria must protect our security, because it is one integrated security by virtue of the fact that both countries are neighbors of the occupied territory and the usurper enemy.

Regarding Lebanese-Palestinian relations, Al-Wazzan said that nobody will prevent arms going to the Palestinian revolution when these arms are used to repulse the Israeli aggression. He added: The struggle torch of the Palestinian revolution, which grew on Lebanese territory, will continue to burn until the revolution achieves the common objective of regaining the Palestinian people's legitimate right to Palestinian soil and the establishment of a state and national entity.

Al-Wazzan asserted that Lebanon still needs the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] and the Palestinian resistance also needs the support of Syria and Lebanon. He said the ADF have rendered and are still rendering a great service to Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance.

Al-Wazzan added: Israel and others want the withdrawal of the ADF from Lebanon so as to achieve their objectives in Lebanon and to deprive the homeland of its basic strength which has, so far, opposed and prevented partition and put an end to fratricide among Lebanese in 1976.

Al-Wazzan expressed regret that some incidents are still taking place in Lebanon despite the Arab followup committee decisions, but he said that these incidents are not serious enough to prevent people from going about their normal work.

The Lebanese prime minister also expressed regret that it has not been possible to reopen all routes between the quarters of the capital. He said that the special efforts to this end had stumbled due to unforeseen problems. He stressed that the Lebanese Government is doing its utmost to reopen the remaining routes.

BRIEFS

YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA -- Dimitar Janevski, Yugoslav ambassador to Syria, was today granted the Syrian Order of Merit First Class at the end of his term as his country's ambassador to Syria. [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Sep 81 JN]

MA'ARIV CARRIES BEGIN NEW YEAR INTERVIEW

TA281018 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Sep 81 pp 13, 14, 15

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin New Year interview by Dov Goldstein -- date not given]

[Text] [Question] Israeli spokesmen often calm us by saying that a failure of the AWACS deal will not hurt the strategic cooperation with the United States. However, a senior Pentagon official made a declaration that said the exact opposite. In your Washington talks, did you receive an assurance from President Reagan that the strategic cooperation would go ahead even if Congress foils the AWACS deal?

[Answer] I received no assurance from President Reagan, but I can say that in all my talks with President Reagan--as well as in our defense minister's talks with the U.S. secretary of defense--no link between the two was mentioned. Never was even one word said that the strategic security cooperation -- on which we decided in principle and on which the two defense ministers have yet to hold talks -- depends on approval of the double deal with Saudi Arabia by both houses of Congress. This never took place. But after I left the United States unofficial statements were issued by anonymous persons -- I am told that one is a senior Defense Department official and one is a State Department spokesman--saying that rejection of the AWACS deal by the houses of Congress would also affect the strategic cooperation. Since I do not know who these spokesmen were, we are no commenting on this. We do not argue with anonymous spokesmen.

[Question] In a MA'ARIV interview last Friday the chairman of the opposition, MK Shim'on Peres, asserted -- and I quote -- that even before you went to Washington you knew of the link between the strategic cooperation with the United States, and the AWACS deal -- and given that situation you should not have gone to the United States, or gone and fought against the AWACS deal vigorously and forcefully. This, Peres maintains, you did not do. Is that actually so?

[Answer] That is a very interesting quotation, but it contains not a grain of truth. The story is very interesting, but it is entirely the product of Mr Peres' imagination. Before we went to Washington we did our homework on the AWACS issue down to the last detail, in order to prove that the supply of that weapon will endanger Israel's security, not just the AWACS, but first and foremost the supply of offensive equipment for the F-15. That equipment will jeopardize us no less than the AWACS planes. Therefore, we must speak of a double deal, as I called it in the United States.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, Director of Military Intelligence Major General Sagi and I brought with us maps, figures, measurements and more. After I detail to you the contents of our talks in the United States, you will see for yourself what remains of Mr Peres' quotation. Mr Peres does not want me to go anywhere. Before the elections I was about to go to Egypt and he insisted I stay home, until he obtained a promise from President as-Sadat that he would be invited too--only then did he agree to my going. He always wants me to stay home. I can tell him that in the coming year I truly do intend to stay home, but sometimes, if the need arises to go abroad, particularly on a state mission -- you go.

Well, we met at President Reagan's invitation in the Oval Office in the White House -- the President and the vice president, Secretary of State Haig and U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mr Lewis, and on our side: Foreign Minister Shamir, our U.S. Ambassador Mr Efi 'Evron, and myself. We sat at a round table. As is his way, the President ran the talk affably, cordially and warmly. We spoke of various matters, what they call "small talk" in English.

Then the President said: "Mr Prime Minister, I would like to speak with you for a few minutes about the matter of the AWACS for the Saudis." I listened respectfully. The President spoke for 3 or 4 minutes. The gist of his remarks was: "I understand that you object to and oppose this deal. I understand that; but I want to assure you that Israel's security will not be adversely affected. We will not let Israel's security be affected, and we will see to it that it is not. We need this deal. I hope it will draw Saudi Arabia into the peace process."

I have good reason to assume that the Americans thought that this marked the end of the discussion on the "Saudi deal," and that after the President's kind remarks we would move on to other matters, but I thought otherwise.

After he had concluded his remarks, I said: "Mr President, the question you have raised is very serious and grave for us, from the point of view of our national security. I do not think it can be resolved by such a brief dicusssion. I would suggest that we go into the Cabinet room and there my colleagues and I will present the problem to you in its full gravity and its full scope. What I want from you is very simple. In our assessment, the deal constitutes a serious danger to Israel's security. We want to put forward our stand, would you please hear us out." The President said: "Fine, I accept your suggestion." I added: "But this is an issue that is creating differences between us. Why begin with differences? I suggest we begin with another subject, in which, I imagine, we shall reach agreement. What should we do together in view of the danger of Soviet expansionism in and around our region -- a danger whose like we have not seen since the end of the Second World War? We live in that region and we do not want totalitarianism to expand, and certainly we do not want it to imperil our free country. This is a common interest of the United States and of Israel, and I suggest we discuss that subject." Again the President agreed that that would be the agenda, and, in fact, a few minutes later we all entered the Cabinet room.

The President opened. By the nature of things he is of course the chairman, both as President and as host: "The prime minister has a statement to make. Please, Mr Prime Minister."

I began by speaking of matters which, I believe, contain the key to U.S. agreement in principle to strategic-security cooperation between the two countries. I drew a distinction between two aspects of the issue: the aspect of defending our country, and the international aspect. As for the former, I said: "We have defended ourselves in five wars and did not ask any nation to sends its sons to defend us or to endanger their soldiers for us. This is how we will behave in the future as well. We will not, Mr President, ask any nation to send troops to shed their blood in our defense, we shall defend ourselves. We have a wonderful young generation, they are serious and ready for self-sacrifice if needed, and they are totally devoted. This is our responsibility and we will do the job.

"However," I added, "there is another problem: Soviet expansion in our region. Ethiopia is close to us. Syria is on our border. In Libya the Russians now have 2,000 tanks and armories under their supervision and command that are full of missiles and planes. In Syria, besides the 2,600 Soviet tanks of the Syrian Army, the Russians have another 1,000 tanks of their own, among the best in the world -- T-72 and T-62 tanks -- as well as missiles and planes. All that is very close to us and we are definitely concerned. I assume that you are also concerned about this situation. What is liable to happen tomorrow in Iran when Khomeyni goes? The Tudeh, the Communist Party, could seize power there and ask the Soviets to enter. The Soviet Army could arrive on the border and within hours be deep inside.

"Let us speak of partnership," I said. "We shall agree here on the principle and the two defense ministers will work out the details."

The President replied quickly and without hesitation: "We agree." His last word was: "Fine, I like it."

The two defense ministers did in fact meet to clarify various details and possibilities, and they issued a joint statement in which, for the first time since the establishment of the state, strategic cooperation is mentioned. Secretary of State Haig discussed it with Prince Fahd, who complained to him about the alliance. Haig rejected his complaints out of hand: "This matter has nothing to do with you. This is a matter of partnership against Soviet expansionism. That is a general danger and we want to maintain this partnership because it is in our interest."

To the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee Mr Haig spoke of "the growing strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States," but those who alleged that we said that already tomorrow there will be practical cooperation; those who spoke scornfully about "U.S. field dressings" -- simply do not know what they are talking about. We never said that the practical cooperation would spring up overnight. We spoke of agreement in principle. This is very important. The two defense ministers are to meet in November in the United States. Perhaps then they will sign a memorandum of understanding. I suggested that there be a written memorandum of understanding which would contain the matters that would be agreed on. The implementation will certainly take more than a few months, perhaps a year or two. Anyone who spoke mockingly of this cooperation was just being a wise guy. To be a wise guy is not to be wise. I think it is the opposite of wisdom. The strategic cooperation is definitely a very serious step by both countries. Obviously there is no ground for all the allegations that we have placed the IDF under U.S. command. That is simply not so. No one even thought of that. The IDF is at the disposal of the State of Israel and its elected government.

That is so obvious that it is not even worth wasting words over it. It is just idle prattle.

Now let us return to the White House. The discussion about strategic cooperation lasted 10 or 12 minutes, no more, then we presented our stand on the double deal with Saudi Arabia, that took about 1 hour and 50 minutes -- until the end of the meeting.

I explained the serious danger to Israel's security. If the Saudis get the offensive equipment for the F-15 planes, they will be able to reach Tel Aviv and return without even refuelling in the air. In addition, the United States is to sell the Saudis special refuelling aircraft should the offensive planes nonetheless have to be refuelled in the air. "I would think," I said, "that if 10 F-15 planes, with their additional equipment, were to fly to attack Tel Aviv, our air force would intercept eight or nine of them. But if even one of them drops bombs, terrible things will happen in Tel Aviv."

As for the AWACS, I said we would be transparent. I did not want to use the word naked, but Dr Burg, who has such a splendid sense of humor, said: "Naked soldiers can fight only in Africa." The defense minister, the foreign minister and the interior minister also took part in the discussion. Then the director of military intelligence, Major General Sagi, approached the President with the excellent maps that were prepared in Israel--true masterworks--and proved to him that the AWACS can see five of the seven Israeli airfields, including every plane on the ground and every helicopter taking off.

I said: "The Saudis cooperate with the Jordanians. The Jordanians have ties with Iraq, which is uncompromisingly hostile to Israel. You will understand that we are concerned about the great danger." The photographs and the precise maps, which showed distances, made a great impression.

The president, the secretary of state and the secretary of defense commented on our remarks. They understood our apprehension, but: "Believe us -- there is no basis for it. We will see to it that you do not suffer from the security point of view." Here, for the first time, the President said a word about arms which was truly important. For years authoritative U.S. spokesmen have been saying that they will not allow our qualitative superiority over our enemies to be annulled. At the meeting I explained that according to the well-known scientific rule, quantity becomes a new quality.

Today the ratio of tanks is 1 to 3 in the enemy's favor. We can live with that because of the unique skill of our tank crews and their experience, as was also shown in the Yom Kippur War. But if it becomes 5 to 1, the situation will be very serious. I addressed the secretary of defense, Caspar Weinberger: "There are 60,000 Soviet tanks facing 11,000 NATO tanks, and you justly fear that 11,000 will not stop 60,000. Therefore you decided, justly, to produce the neutron bomb. I believe it will never be used, but it will give the other side food for thought that perhaps they should not attack. That kind of disproportion could be created for Israel also, and both the West and the East are supplying arms to the Arab states. You are supplying arms to them. What will happen in another 5 or 10 years? We definitely need quantity too, not just quality." President Reagan said: "I want to assure you, Mr Prime Minister, that we will see to Israel's security, both quantitatively and qualitatively."

The following day we appeared before the two most important congressional committees: the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Early that morning I met privately with the President and I told him that we would present to the congressional committees precisely the same maps we had shown him. We do not speak in two voices. I said to him: "I shall tell the committee members what you said, that you will not let Israel's security be endangered, but I shall add that we are nonetheless certain that the double deal with Saudi Arabia constitutes a very grave threat to Israel's security."

And that is what we did. I must say that the defense minister's analysis before the two committees was brilliant. Afterward the secretary of state phoned me to say that Senator Baker had phoned the President and told him that there was a danger that the administration would lose in the Senate vote, and that the President was extremely concerned. I asked: "What do you want from me? How can I help?" Mr Haig told me that Senator Packwood was collecting signatures of senators who were opposed to the deal. "Do you know anything about that?" Mr Haig asked.

I said: "I am hearing about it from you. Am I to give orders to a United States senator?"

At one of our meetings Mr Haig said to me: "The president has been told that you gave a list of senators to Senator Packwood [as published; presumably should be Minister Fallwell as reported in a shorter YEDI'OT AHARNOT version of this interview] for him to persuade against the Saudi deal." Senator Packwood, who is highly able, heads a movement called the Moral Majority. They are very devout Christians. He says he has the following of 20 million Christians, both Catholics and Protestants, who support Israel all the way on every issue. These are very devoted friends.

Jews with a liberal viewpoint have objected, and asked why I allowed the friendship of the senator and his supporters, who have a conservative point of view -- for instance, they are against abortion. The liberals consider this a reactionary outlook. I said: "My dear friends, I have to see to Israel's future and its security. Do I have to intervene in the issue of abortion in America? Everyone lives according to his outlook. In Israel, too, there are people who oppose abortion. Israel has so many enemies, and here is a Christian group that swears its friendship and proves its friendship. I received phone calls from Senator Packwood after our military operations, when the American press published reports against us verging on invective. He said: I want you to know that we are wholeheartedly behind Israel. It is not true that American public opinion is against you. That is not true! We represent a large section of public opinion, we are with you." Those are very important statements. When a person stands by you at a difficult time he shows his sincerity and his friendship.

Well, regarding the matter that Mr Haig asked me about, it was like this: I met with Mr Packwood along with 20 of his clergymen friends. That was a very good meeting. He and every one of them declared their warm attitude towards Israel and their deep friendship, along the lines of: "We love Israel. We love Jerusalem. Jerusalem will not be divided. We pray for the peace of Israel and the wellbeing of Jerusalem." I thanked them and told them that I greatly esteemed their friendship. No one will ever come between us. But I never even considered giving Mr Packwood a list of senators for him to recruit to oppose the Saudi deal.

And that is what I told Secretary of State Haig. I did not want to say it [Haig's contention] was a lie. I do not like that word. I said it was an entirely fantastic fabrication, that it was groundless. When reports like that are given to the President, that is negative. Today Mr Haig again phoned me, but on a different matter. The last issue of NEWSWEEK reported that in our meeting at the airport, prior to my departure for Israel, Mr Haig "gave me hell." The secretary wanted to let me know personally, by phone, that he totally rejects that report. It just never happened.

The truth is that the airport talk was tense in certain parts, although it was conducted with all the rules of courtesy. The plane was held up and Yehi'el Kadishai came in to say: "We are paying for this delay in liftoff." In that talk Mr Haig said I had supposedly given Senator Packwood a list of senators. The story angered me. These inventions...it was very childish. Mr Haig was a worried man. He greatly supports this deal. He undertook publicly to implement it, but afterward he himself said: "The leaders of Israel definitely have the right to be concerned about this deal and may express their opposition both here and in their country. All Americans have the right to voice their opinion on this matter." Mr Haig, of course, committed no act of plagiarism, but those were the exact words I had used at a Jewish gathering. There were those in the United States who took this to mean that I was calling on the Jews not to struggle against the deal. Immediately editorials condemning me appeared in the Israeli press. I asked [Voice of Israel political correspondent] Mr Schiffer: "If you hear that I have converted to Christianity, will you immediately send the news to Israel? Will you not try to clarify the report? How could you imagine that I was urging the Jews not to struggle against the deal?" Mr Schiffer later tried to correct the report, but whoever heard only the original report formed his own impression. At the gathering with the presidents of the major Jewish organizations I spoke explicitly against the deal, saying that every U.S. citizen had the right to struggle against it.

Had Mr Peres spoken the truth, had I, as he claimed, known in advance of the link between the double deal and the strategic cooperation and given up the campaign against the deal -- why did Mr Haig come to an unscheduled meeting at the airport in New York, before my departure? He expressed concern over the possibility that the administration was liable to lose in the vote on the AWACS deal.

[Question] Did he request something from you?

[Answer] He did -- but you will permit me not to say what he requested. I could not accede to his request, and I told him that I could not. How can a person with such a responsible standing as the head of the opposition in the Knesset fabricate such a tale? All the facts refute this fantastic story.

[Question] Now that you have held a few talks with President Reagan, can you describe the difference in style and character between him and former President Carter?

[Answer] I can, of course, but I am not happy about going into matters that are very personal. First of all I want to say: former President Carter is my friend, and that is why I went to Plains to visit him and his wife, both of whom are dear friends of myself and my wife. The trip took 8 hours, a whole day. It was a very moving meeting. Mr Carter is a man of very acute intelligence and he showed great friendship for Israel, but at times we had really sharp exchanges of words. He himself wrote about it about 10 days ago when he discovered As-Sadat and me. That happens between friends, too, and I remember exchanges here, when Carter visited Israel and demanded that we agree to an Egyptian liaison office in the Gaza Strip. We rejected that out of hand. At one meeting he expressed himself sharply and I replied sharply. After I had spoken he said: "I understand, I understand."

But basically he was a friend to Israel, and there is no doubt that if a Camp David agreement exists -- and I think it is a very good agreement for Israel -- and if we have a peace treaty -- which is certainly a very positive thing -- it is to a large extent thanks to President Carter, to his work and his diligence. At Camp David we sat until 0300. At 0700 he was already up and about. He worked 12 days and 12 nights.

President Reagan has different qualities. He is first of all very warm in his relations with others; when he receives someone in his office, he exudes warmth. He draws people together. In his appearances he tells a story and a good joke. What the President says -- is pleasant to hear. He can make decisions. When we spoke privately he told me a story, one that I cannot repeat. He has changed much in U.S. policy. He decided on strategic cooperation quickly, even though he naturally anticipated shouts of protest from the radical Arab states.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the strategic cooperation is by its nature designed to curb Soviet encroachment in the Middle East, and not to defend Israel from its foes, as you put it. If the Soviet Union is deterred from its expansionism by the Israeli-U.S. partnership or for other reasons, all the objectives will have been attained and all will be well. But if it is not deterred, can you conceive of a possibility that, subject to this alliance, or to this agreement, Israel will send its troops together with U.S. soldiers to fight against Soviet expansionism in the Persian Gulf, for instance?

[Answer] I do not envision such a possibility. I am certain that if the United States conducts a policy of deterrence and the countries close to it help it in this policy, the Soviet Union will not embark on any war of expansion, that is the intention of this partnership. That is the only factor that can deter them in and around our region. Great powers generally send their troops to remote places, this is nothing new. Small countries generally do not do this. No. I do not think Israel will send its soldiers to fight in the Persian Gulf. The Russians are realistic politicians, they are definitely ready to take over various countries and to make use of Cubans and East Germans and others in the implementation of their policy, and sometimes to act on their own, as they did in Afghanistan. However, when they encounter serious resistance they know where to draw the line, and I believe they will stop. So all these efforts are not for war against the Russians, but to halt it and to prevent Soviet expansion. This is a healthy policy, both for the great power and for a small country like ours. We will not have to send our troops to fight in far-off places.

[Question] You told the public several times that Israel would not initiate a defense pact with the United States, but if the United States were to propose it to Israel, you would recommend that the cabinet give a favorable response. Would it not be fitting for the United States, as a great power, to propose strategic cooperation to Israel, and for Israel to agree?

[Answer] Things were just as you put them in your question. It is true and I will not deny it: I thought before my departure for the United States that we should initiate and propose this idea, it is in the interest of both countries. Our interest is very deep, both because we are a democratic state and we do not want totalitarianism to take over, and because of our attitude toward the Soviet regime, of which we have first-hand knowledge. By the way, communism is today in a very deep structural crisis. It is no simple matter that in a country like Poland the representatives of millions of workers meet and demand free parliamentary elections. Of liberty it may be said that it is more contagious than totalitarianism. Totalitarianism must be imposed by force, and no country in Europe forged its own revolution. Soviet tanks imposed Communism on the Central and Eastern European countries, but freedom is contagious. It spreads like wildfire and we shall yet see what happens in Poland. We need only be patient. In our heart we are optimistic.

Well, I belive that we must propose to the United States strategic cooperation and not fear refusal or rejection. If the principle were to be rejected--fine: We lived without this cooperation for 33 years...

It was with this decision that I arrived in the United States, and even while I was still working on presenting my case, I read the Sunday edition of the New York TIMES -- you know it's like a whole book -- and there was an instructive interview with Secretary of State Haig, who said: "In recent years there has been a good deal of rhetoric regarding strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States. We have to add meat to the bones of rhetoric." That is, in fact the conceptual initiative regarding strategic cooperation came from the United States, from the secretary of state.

I quoted Mr Haig's remark to President Reagan. He was dumbfounded. "Do you remember the exact words?" I think that had we proposed strategic cooperation without distinguishing between the two notions -- of self-defense against our enemies, and of cooperation to deter the Russians -- we would not have achieved cooperation. The United States would have recoiled in the face of the Arab reaction.

[Question] Is there also agreement between Israel and the United States on matters pertaining to the Middle East? Once you took a very firm stand regarding the Syrian missiles in southern Lebanon, but of late there has been total silence. What happened? Do the missiles no longer constitute a danger?

[Answer] We have not changed our stand by one iota. There was a discussion on Lebanon at the State Department that lasted for 2 and a half hours. Philip Habib was there, too, and one of my first questions to the secretary of state was: "Why is Mr Philip Habib in the United States? Why is he not in the Middle East? Why is he not working for the removal of the missiles?" The Americans reiterated that the missiles would be removed. I reminded them of President Reagan's letter to me in which he said that the status quo ante must be restored. That was an explicit U.S. commitment, and my interlocutors admitted that they had not fulfilled their task. This time, too, Philip Habib requested: "Give me more time." We agreed to give him more time. We could not refuse. We do not want a war with the Syrians. We could destroy the missiles within 2 hours. The United States knows this too, but since in the meantime there has been a cessation of hostilities on the northern border, we did not want shooting to break out there.

[Question] But the military possibility still exists?

[Answer] Certainly. We will not be able to tolerate it indefinitely. These missiles are causing a certain interference in our work, which was confirmed by Philip Habib in the agreement we reached with him. Do not accept the misleading and distorted interpretations that we made an agreement with the terrorists -- no such agreement ever was reached. The agreement is with Philip Habib. Mr Habib and I formulated every word together. I have a letter from him asserting that we will continue to carry out reconnaissance missions over Lebanon, and that these missions are not considered hostile acts, and, indeed, we are flying all the time. It was suggested to us 2 weeks ago to fly at higher altitudes and stop our low-altitude flights. We refused, and the United States accepted this. All the low-altitude flights are essential because photographs taken from a high altitude when the skies are cloudy are worthless. We are continuing our low-level flights.

We agreed to give Mr Habib more time. We were not informed when he intends to return to the region. We shall, of course, request that he come with all possible speed. The interference that I spoke of does not prevent us from taking the pictures. Thanks to these photographs we know exactly what is going on in Lebanon. Exactly!

[Question] Do you not fear that strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States will tie Israel's hands in initiating military operations which are vital to its security?

[Answer] Not even by one molecule. I do not fear this even by a particle -- they did not mention this and did not demand this, even as regards military operations of ours that caused dispute, such as the bombing of the Iraqi reactor or the strike at the terrorists in Beirut, we accepted Mr Haig's advice to speak only about the present and the future, not about the past.

[Question] Do you not fear that overt strategic cooperation with the Americans might provoke a Soviet reaction, such as, for example, closing the gates to Jews?

[Answer] No, definitely not! On the contrary: The Russians know how to respect this language. The foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and Israel had not met for 6 years. When did Mr Gromyko meet our Mr Shamir? After a decision was made on strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States. This heightens Israel's prestige and accentuates its importance. It turns out that Israel is not alone, as Mr Peres threatened we would be....

[Question] Observers predict that if Congress aborts the double deal it would constitute an abominable failure for President Reagan. He will put the blame on Israel and collect the bill from it. Is this a valid evaluation?

[Answer] No, at least I think it is exaggerated, if true at all. First of all, I received an indirect message from the secretary of state that if the deal were to fail -- and he still hopes it will be approved -- he would under no circumstances hold Israel responsible and would not blame it for the failure of the deal. I do not foresee any difficulties for Israel if the deal is not approved. If somebody wants to put the "blame" on Israel he will be doing something unacceptable to the Americans: Many senators and members of the House of Representatives have explicitly said that even if Israel had agreed to deal they would have persisted in their opposition because theirs are American rather than Israeli considerations. In their opinion, this deal objectively contradicts American interests, they will not allow Israel to be harmed because their considerations, as Americans, compel them to vote against the deal and I cannot envision President Reagan taking this path. He did not impress me as being capable of behaving in such a way.

We fulfilled our obligation. In the reception held by our ambassador I asked: "Does anybody expect us to tell something that is not true, that this deal does not pose a threat to Israel's security?"

After my remarks, the U.S. vice president said: "I want you to know that you have two friends at the White House." Jolly good, it is better to have two than one.

[Question] From all the rooftops we are being warned that the PLO is strengthening itself in Lebanon shielded by the cease-fire. Can Israel maintain the cease-fire under these conditions?

[Answer] The terrorists are really strengthening themselves. However, from the military point of view, if we should have another confrontation, their strength would be worthless against the IDF. They currently have 18 new 130-mm cannon positions with a range of 27 km. This is not a problem. We know exactly where they are located and, if necessary, we will destroy them. The problem is another. We told the Americans: "You cannot expect us to allow the PLO to interpret the end of hostilities as a permit to kill Jews. As far as we are concerned, there is no difference whether this happens in Vienna, Paris, Athens or Jerusalem. Jews are always Jews. It is forbidden to kill them, we will not allow it!"

The Americans understood. They are trying, with the help of Saudi Arabia, to put an end to these killings. I have recently learned how Saudi Arabia casts its influence on the PLO: Saudi Arabia has given $20 million to 'Arafat. That is the secret of 'Arafat's agreement to the cease-fire, in addition to his tight position as a result of the IDF operations.

We must not deny it: Qiryat Shemona and Nahariyya suffered. I visited both places and it is impossible to ignore this fact. I went into one of the air raid shelters and it was unbearable, one must run out after 10 minutes. I could not breathe. These shelters are not good, new ones must be built. This is a financial problem, obviously, but in some matters money is not important. We must protect our population. Now they have peace. We would like the cease-fire to continue indefinitely. We do not want to get harmed, we do not want to harm anybody so long as Jews are not attacked anywhere. We will make efforts in that direction.

[Question] The pullback from the Sinai is approaching as an extremist element is emerging which is ready to even take violent measures to prevent the withdrawal. How does the government intend to assure the withdrawal according to schedule? Will it be scrupulous about sending soldiers to evacuate the settlers by force knowing for a fact that this might end in bloodshed?

[Answer] I want to set the first principle: We signed a peace treaty and we will fulfill everything stipulated in that treaty. Personally, there is nothing more painful than the commitment we undertook -- not in Camp David but in Jerusalem -- to evacuate the settlements. I reiterate: As a result of the double vote and because my suggestion to hold two separate votes -- one on the Camp David accords and the other on the evacuation of the settlements -- was not accepted. However, the decision was made by a vast majority of the Knesset. Elections have been held. Had the public had any reservations about the government's policy it would not have given us 48 Knesset members and a mandate to continue running the affairs of the state.

The government, the Knesset and the people made their decision. Threats, violence and violent opposition cannot influence us in the least. We do want to prevent any kind of violence and we will do everything possible to preclude violence. Owing to the moral power the government enjoys among the public, we can afford not to send soldiers to Talme Yosef to evacuate the 16 families that have taken over houses in that moshav.

[Question] The elections campaign tarnished relations between the various sects in Israel and widened the gap. Who is to blame for it, in your opinion?

[Answer] I do not want to make any accusations. However, I know that the Alignment has been trying to put the blame on the Likud. This accusation is totally unfounded. It is true that the election campaign was burdensome and heated. However, it was a democratic one. Such things have been known to happen in the past. The intersectarian gap and the feeling of discrimination had been an open sore, especially when the Alignment was in power. I am not accusing, I am merely pointing out a fact. This has been a very lengthy affair. Today, a person such as Mordekhay Gur [Former Israeli chief of staff and currently a member of the Labor Party] admits that this issue has been going on for a long time and that the alignment only paid lipservice to this affair and did nothing to resolve the problem.

Already in 1946, at the end of a meeting of the "Tnu'at Hameri" [rebellion movement against the British mandate] leadership, composed of the Irgun, the Lehi and the Hagana, Yisra'el Galili asked me: "Tell me, Menaham, how did you solve the problem of the eastern Jews in the Irgun?" I replied: What are you talking about? What problem?" And he said: "Do not play the innocent. You heard what I asked. How did you solve the problem of the eastern Jews?" I answered: Yisra'el, for God's sake, what are you talking about? We have no such problem. Our most senior officers are of eastern extraction and all our members stand at attention before them. We do not have any problem. The Yemenite Jews say ("abi gezunt") [Yiddish for keep healthy] before setting out to battle. They have adopted these two words in Yiddish. They set out to fight, endanger their lives and greet each other in Yiddish. They do not say "gefilte fish" but ("abi gezunt.") Really, we have no problems."

We continued with this tradition also in the Herut Movement. Things were slightly different in the Alignment. I have appreciated the kibbutz since childhood. This is a great and remarkable enterprise. Today they are rich but I do not envy their wealth. The kibbutzim have grown rich mainly because of their sophisticated and scientific industries. They are earning millions of dollars.

[Question] Still, their sons are good soldiers....

[Answer] Excellent soldiers, fighting soldiers with a high motivation. However, this is no reason why Dudu Topaz [Israeli actor] should say about the others that they are scum, that they barely make it as gatekeepers if they enlist in the army. That is shocking.

[Question] Mr Peres has said that Dudu Topaz cost the Alignment, according to a poll, two mandates, and the destruction of the Iraqi reactor gave the Likud another 12 mandates....

[Answer] How very interesting. Let us go back to our issue: There was a problem with the eastern Jews in the Hagana. There was no such a problem in the Irgun. Brig Gen Avigdor Qahalani's father [of Yemenite extraction] once said: "I was first in the Hagana, with a group of friends. We were sneered at, ostracized. We did not react. We just moved to the Irgun. We were received with open arms, with love. Then we started to act."

That was the beginning. Later, there was talk within the Alignment about two cultures and whoever did not belong to "our" culture was called "riffraff." Such a distinction between two cultures is inconceivable in our world. That is nonsense. There is the culture of the Jewish people who, in the various places where they lived, acquired different tones. I am certain that in the course of one generation all the differences will be blurred and there will no longer be a problem of eastern and European Jews. I was -- and still am -- ready to issue a joint statement with Mr Peres. We will call for unity and for removing the intersectarian dispute from the agenda of the interpartisan struggle. I am ready to include the heads of all the large and small parties in this call. This issue must be struck off the agenda. Obviously, there are problems. There is the problem of housing. It is a fact that the problem of housing afflicts eastern families in development towns more than it does European Jews. This fact cannot be ignored. When there is an economic recession, unemployment affects eastern Jews in development towns more than it affects European Jews. I am totally against the terms Sephardic and Ashkenazi. Who is a Sephardi and who is an Ashenazi? Ashkenazi means German. Am I a German or am I a Jew? One should say Jew, or rather, Israeli. There are not different Israeli people, there is a Jewish people.

The eastern Jews must be helped in solving their problems, without airs of superiority or rejection. A man named Horowitz said horrible things at a meeting of Hashomer Hatza'ir [youth movement affiliated with MAPAM] "The mass immigration that arrived after the establishment of the state did not go through the Zionist revolution. They are only used to receiving!" How shocking! There have been another four wars since 1949. Did they not shed their blood? Did they not give the thing dearest to them, their lives? Are they only used to receiving? The cemeteries are full of tombs of eastern Jews. Is that a way to talk? Is that the justice and honesty of Hashomer Hatza'ir? This is shocking!

[Question] An unprecendented situation was created in the City of David affair when a Cabinet minister, who swore allegiance to the laws of the state, found himself in conflict between the state laws and the Halakha rulings of the chief rabbis. Should not clear criteria be set that would bind ministers in similar situations?

[Answer] I intend to ask the honorable chief rabbis to meet with me and discuss this issue. I will go and meet them. I will not ask them to come to my office out of respect for them. I want to discuss the question of the Halakha and the law with the chief rabbis. The Satmer Hassidim demonstrated against me in the United States and shouted derogatory words at me -- real and true sacrilege. They shouted in English, of course, for all the American people to hear. It was a sensation, it was even broadcast on television. "The Israeli police are Nazis," they said. I did not react, I did not even say one word. What could I have said? That sacrilege hurt me? In the United States I told Jews: "You must know that there is an important rule in our country, there is the rule of law and therefore we will implement any ruling of the court in full. We fulfilled the court's fuling on the issue of Elon More. The members of Gush Emunim cursed us without any justification. I told them: "I am giving to you love in exchange for hatred. What do you want from us? Do you want to disobey the ruling of the high court of justice? We found a site for them 3 kms away. Who knows today where Elon More used to be at one time? Today, they are fine, thank God. They sit on the mountain and they call the place Elon More. In any event, we will abide by the law. However, the issue is wider than that. For example, the laws on matrimony and divorce are according to the Halakha. Who decided on that? The Knesset did, that is the custom. Here we are faced with a deep misunderstanding which must be removed as soon as possilbe. It poses a threat on normal life in the country and I hope we will be able to remove it as soon as possible.

[Question] You say that the State of Israel is a lawful state....

[Answer] I have never said such a thing. That was the doing of the late David Ben-Gurion. Why did not I accept it, with all due respect to Ben-Gurion? I did not repeat those words and I am not doing it now either because of their oversimplicity. The state has laws and in some cases, the laws stem from the Halakha. The chief rabbis also act according to the law and the authority given to them by the Knesset. It is inaccurate to say: We are not an Halakhic state but a state that follows laws. Instead, we are both an Halakhic state and a state that follows laws. However, the Halakha is founded on the law. This is the philosophy of the State of Israel. Even when acting according to the Halakha, that is possible only because Israeli law adopted the precepts of Halakha.

[Question] The chief rabbinate demands the implementation of clause 45 in the coalition agreement and authorizes the chief rabbinate by law to stipulate whether any site in Israel had been a Jewish cemetery and whether archeological digs may or may not be performed there. Are you going to honor that point in the coalition agreement?

[Answer] I must reread that clause in the agreement to know exactly what the text says. We shall honor the coalition agreement, but an examination is called for, and one must also create the necessary circumstances. The Likud is, after all, also a coalition. The members have to be consulted. One must see how to ensure sufficient support for the law whose legislation is being requested. The truth is, I did not recall that clause in the agreement. You know, the coalition agreement took many days and nights to work out, and I was not always able to hear what exactly the agreement includes. I was busy with affairs of state, and charged trustworthy colleagues with the task of formulating the agreement. I have to reread this clause, clause 45, did you say? What we undertook -- we shall honor, but, clause 45 will become a law. The chief rabbi has proposed a law, which supports my concept that state law should determine the role of the Halakha. The principle is that the individual ought to be free; I said this openly. Are we to legislate a law forbidding travel to the beach on the Sabbath? We should not do it. A law cancelling public transportation in Haifa? No! Public transportation has been in existence for dozens of years. Walking in Haifa is very difficult because of the mountains.

I explained to my religious friends that I cannot change this and they understood. We are not imposing on the individual. The public sphere is something else. If, for example, I expressed my opinion that El Al should not be flying on the Sabbath -- this is a different issue. Why must an El Al plane adorned with the white-blue flag land in Paris on a Saturday? We are setting up a committee of experts to discuss the whole issue. The fact that no buses run in Tel Aviv on Saturdays had been established by the municipality before the inception of the state. We shall be more respected if El Al does not fly on Saturday, but we should not limit the rights of an individual.

[Question] One last question, and not a happy end, necessarily: A member of your Cabinet, Aharon Abu-Hatzera, who is now accused of larcency, refuses to give up his immunity. The Cabinet secretary is accused of behavior unsuitable for a civil servant, a matter for which he will also stand on disciplinary trial. Does not public decency require that the two be sent on vacation, at least, until the end of the proceedings?

[Answer] Although you said, "no happy end." I can assure you, there will be a "happy end." I'll begin with the secretary. How didn't I suspend him people keep asking. They often do not know what they're talking about. They did not read the law. I'm not authorized to suspend him. Somebody claimed, allegedly in my name, that I won't intervene, since he works for the Cabinet and not in the prime minister's office. Fiddlesticks! The person authorized to suspend a civil servant under such circumstances is only one: the Civil Service commissioner, and the Civil Service commissioner decided not to suspend Arye Na'or! I can do nothing to intervene in the matter. He did not consult me. He spoke not, nor did he ask. The circumstances of the case have been submitted to the Civil Service commissioner, who has exclusive authority in that sphere, and he came to the conclusion that Arye Na'or needn't be suspended.

As for Minister Abu-Hatzera, this is my decision. That is to say, I did not request his suspension, I did not ask him to leave the Cabinet. In my opinion, we had here a outbreak of the most dangerous instincts. This happens sometimes, that a nation is divided into two camps. This happened in France at the time of the Dreyfus affair. I am not drawing analogies, but Abu-Hatzera was already "sentenced" in the past, before the court handed down its ruling. I am saying this not only because I studied law, but also because of the experience our movement had, when three innocent people had been falsely accused and pushed to the gallows.

More than anything else I respect the rule that so long as a person is not proved guilty, he is innocent. Abu-Hatzera is, in my eyes, deemed innocent also today. No guilt of his has yet been proved. There is no law requiring his suspension. A civil servant is subject to such a law, he must be suspended. Anyone who is not a civil servant -- and Knesset and Cabinet members are not civil servants in the legal sense -- is not subject to this law. I am asking my personal conscience: May I, in the absence of a law, create a precedent and ask Abu-Hatzera to go on leave? It doesn't matter what people say. When I have to decide, I act according to my conscience.

Why create the impression that I also suspect his guilt? That would be the interpretation if I asked him to retire temporarily. I must not doubt his innocence so long as the court does not pronounce him guilty. There is no such law -- and I won't create it.

[Question] Is it just, in your opinion, that a civil servant of any rank, even a tea server, be subject to a stricter law than a Cabinet member?

[Answer] Let us assume there is a deficiency in the law. Nobody is guilty because of this. Okay, let them amend the law, I, as the head of the executive arm, cannot fulfill the role of the legislator. If the legislator wanted the suspension to apply also to Knesset and Cabinet members, he should have stipulated this by a special clause in the government basic law. The criminal law has a rule which says that analogies must not be drawn. You cannot say that if a civil servant is suspended, a Knesset or Cabinet member must be suspended even more so. Believe me, I mulled over the Abu-Hatzera issue for many a day and night. This is how I conceive it and I will handle it according to my conscience: He is innocent so long as the opposite has not been proved.

When his trial begins, I am sure that Abu-Hatzera himself will ask for leave, just as he did in his former trial -- and this for a simple reason: On Sundays he cannot sit at both Cabinet meetings and in court. There is no doubt that the trial will be conducted every day, and he cannot be absent from Cabinet meetings for weeks on end. He will ask for a vacation, and receive it, but I will not initiate the vacation.

BEGIN'S 28 SEPTEMBER RADIO INTERVIEW

TA281645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1405 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin interviewed by Shim'on Schiffer and Arye Golan -- recorded 27 September, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Begin: Against a background of Muslim fanaticism, are you not worried about the difficulties President as-Sadat has been having recently with the opposition in his country?

[Answer] I know these difficulties. When I was in the United States, I also tried to explain them to U.S. public opinion and I said roughly the following: These measures that have been taken by President as-Sadat, they cannot even be conceivable in our two countries, that is, in the United States and Israel, because of constitutional matters. But President as-Sadat's moves must be understood. He is confronting the danger of what is called Muslim fundamentalism, or Khomeynism. That is that same Muslim religious fanaticism that was dormant for a long time and all of a sudden awoke, broke out in Iran and is spreading over other countries and one of them is Egypt and, after all, this is a movement that carries with it the darkness of the Middle Ages. We are seeing it once more, almost Bolshevist -- night trials, secret trials and firing squads at dawn. Some 1,400 peopl have already been executed after secret trials. There is no justice, there is no procedure for justice, there is no justice; instead, there is what is called legal murder and this is increasing. Well, this is really darkness.

Therefore President as-Sadat had to fight this same phenomenon and in his country there was apparently no other way. I also called on U.S. public opinion to understand President as-Sadat's motives for the actions he has taken to suppress this danger or prevent its taking over Egypt. I am also telling the citizens of Israel this and I think that we can see that the same people are also enemies of peace and it is also in our interest that President as-Sadat should really overcome that darkness of the Middle Ages which those groups also want to bring to Egypt.

[Question] And do you believe that he really will overcome it?

[Answer] I assume that he will overcome it. I think that the majority of the Egyptian nation supports him.

[Question] I want to ask you about one detail. What will Israel do when [as heard] the Soviet Union invades Iran? What will Israel's role be in the strategic partnership?

[Answer] Well, we have not yet reached a clarification of the question. We -- I emphasize this again -- reached an agreement on the principle. The two defense ministers, that is, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger have to meet once more. They have already met in Washington for 2 full hours and spoke about certain details which it is still too soon to reveal, and they are due to meet either at the end of October or the beginning of November to work out all the details and also to prepare a draft of a memorandum of understanding. I wanted this and I suggested that such a memorandum be signed, a memorandum of understanding, it is called in diplomatic language, and all the details will be in it.

I want to promise that this memorandum will not be secret. It will be published. I can say that it will be published either in the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee -- that is, if it is reported to the members of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee that will automatically mean publication because of leakage or leaking -- or I think that it would be even more preferable to give out the contents of that document from the Knesset podium. I am prepared to read it out from the Knesset podium. There will be no secrecy. And then we will know the details. They must yet be thought about, all sorts of preparations made, but the intention is not that Israel will have to take part in some sort of military campaign with regard to Iran. The intention is for the establishment of such forces, or a combination of such forces, which in combination, will deter the forces that wish to take over control of the Middle East and really put us all in jeopardy, from the aspect of our national freedom, and of our independence, to deter someone from making such an attempt, that is the wisdom in the policy.

[Question] Mr Begin: With your permission, I would like to refer to another aspect of the strategic cooperation. Israel has been claiming all along that the PLO and the demand for the establishment of a Palestinian state is, in fact, a demand that is coming with very strong encouragement from the Soviet Union and it is the Soviet Union that stands behind the PLO and this demand. Would you want this matter also to appear in the understanding, the written understanding, we will have with the United States on the issue of strategic cooperation?

[Answer] Well, we will see this during the negotiations, but I want to tell you that U.S. President Reagan, on his own initiative, and without our requesting it, said, at one of the moments in a talk between us, I am quoting it word for word: I, that is, the President of the United States, promise you that the United States will not hold any contact with the terrorist organization as long as they do not maintain the two well-known conditions, recognition of Israel's right to exist and recognition of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. No contact between the United States and them; that is what the President of the United States said and that is a specific commitment by President Reagan, without our having asked for it, so there is the hope that we may possibly introduce such a clause into the memorandum of understanding. If not, the previous clause, as it was presented in 1975, will remain.

[Question] Mr Begin: Do you share the idea that, in fact, a Palestinian state exists and it is in Jordan?

[Answer] I have never said such a thing. There are some friends who claim so and that is their prerogative. I have said that our right [over the West Bank] continues to exist and that is enough for me.

I want to tell about the dream I am entertaining. Everyone entertains his one dream. We have learned that dreams sometimes come true and advance mankind. I dream of the day when peace will reign between us and the ruler of trans-Jordan in the east. And in the wake of that peace, we shall be able to give to trans-Jordan -- or to Jordan, as it is called today -- a free port to the Mediterranean, be it in Ashdod or in Haifa, and goods from both countries will be going to the East --our goods -- and to the West -- those of Jordan, and we shall be able to visit each other and we shall establish what I can term today a free confederation, and then really, perhaps the most beautiful and noble vision of Ze'ev Jabotinsky will materialize: there will be sated with wealth and plenty, the son of Arabia, the son of Nazareth and my own son.

[Question] When you speak about a confederation, do you mean that there will be several authorities in several factors in charge in Judaea and Samaria, that is, Israel and trans-Jordan?

[Answer] No, I am talking about a confederation between western Eretz Yisra'el and eastern Yisra'el, a free and agreed confederation, living in peace and mutual respect, with a prosperous economy. This can be achieved. Everywhere. Everyone is entitled to express his vision and dream.

[Question] Mr Begin: Perhaps we could hear, from that vision, what you predict in the shorter term. In the near future it will be necessary to evacuate the Yamit Strip. How do you predict that this process will be carried out?

[Answer] Well, I see all sorts of phenomena, I hear all sorts of things, I am not impressed by them. My dear friend, the government made a decision that we would leave Sinai and the Knesset, by an enormous majority, approved that decision.

However, somebody can claim that there have been elections in the meantime and those decisions were made by the previous Knesset. I want to emphasize: There have been elections in the meantime. What were the results? There was a party that ran for the elections with the slogan: do not leave the Rafah approaches. What did that party receive? Two and a 1/2 seats, formally, three seats. We received 16 times as many as that party: 48 in comparison with 3. So, to whom did the nation give its approval for its policy? Today it is not only a formal matter of a government decision that was approved by a large Knesset majority. Today it is a matter of a decision by the nation, only 2 and 1/2 months ago. On 30 June, the voters agreed to it, as we had proposed, in our election platform. Can anyone dispute such a decision by the nation? We will overcome that problem. I hope, I believe that there will not be any clashes and common-sense will prevail with everyone and so we will find a solution.

However, we will keep the conditions of the treaty we signed and if there is anyone who can come along with complaints, I have a reply as I gave it to the settlers themselves. When I went there, there were whistles and cries of condemnation and I accepted them with love, but I spoke to the whole public and I told them the following: As is known, I did not want such an evacuation. As is known, at Camp David I did not give agreement, under any circumstances, to the withdrawal, and I announced that the Knesset would discuss it, and as is known, I requested that a distinction should be made between the two votes: The Camp David agreement on its own, as such, and the Rafah approaches problem separately. Well, the opposition then did not, under any circumstances, want to vote in this way, but it demanded demonstratively that there should be one vote. There was then no other way because then it was a question of peace itself and we chose it. So, I told the settlers: Sometimes governments, or prime ministers, have to make difficult decisions, very difficult ones; this is one of them. But when we made that decision, we thought, and I myself thought about your children. We do not want them to be killed in war and so we also made that sacrifice for the sake of peace.

And what is the importance of a peace treaty in these days -- I have already spoken about this and the whole of Israel has seen -- and then the decisive majority accepted these words with applause. I remember the picture as though it was yesterday. Did I conceal anything from anyone? I am sure that this time, too, everyone will understand what has to be done and the government will not, under any condition, violate the international commitments it took upon itself.

WEST BANK MAYORS ON EUROPEAN INITIATIVE

TA290545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Sep 81

[Text] The mayors of Judaea and Samaria have called on the Arab countries not to cooperate with the European initiative because it constitutes some sort of reconciliation to the Camp David accords. In an announcement issued last night, the mayors also denounced the British Prime Minister for saying that the PLO was a terror organization during her tour of the Persian Gulf. The announcement was issued by, among others, Bassam ash-Shak'ah, Karim Khalaf and Hilmi Hanun. Our correspondent notes that this position is stronger than that of the PLO which has been cooperating -- albeit reservedly -- with the European initiative.

BEGIN: POSSIBLE RENEWAL OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

TA282020 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin interviewed by Yisra'el Segal -- videotaped 27 September, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Sir, you know that the Alignment also made the same accusation against the media as you did [that they are antigovernment]?

[Answer] The Alignment has a large appetite, for them, what you do against us is not enough, it is not enough for them....

[Question] No, when the Alignment was in power, it accused us of working against the government. Does this not prove something?

[Answer] Fine, I have not demanded that you should be against the government when the Alignment was in power. I want to have state media; that is, expression of all serious public views should be given on the television and radio.

[Question] At the end of last week, the person who was foreign minister in your government, Moshe Dayan, wrote that autonomy, and I am quoting, has been buried and Prime Minister Menahem Begin has stationed himself as a faithful guard over its tomb. End of quote. He also writes -- and I am quoting again -- that we will pay for the fact that we did not lift a finger to stabilize coexistence in the territories, as he writes, or in greater Eretz Yisra'el, and that we will pay for the corruption that has gripped us as a conquering power.

[Answer] Fine. You quoted that from Mr Dayan's remarks. I simply do not accept those remarks. But I wanted to say that what he means, entirely, is his idea, not mine: unilaterally imposing autonomy on the Arabs who are inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and completely abandoning the negotiations in order to reach an agreement. I did not accept that idea, but the main thing is that the nation of Israel did not accept it, because Mr Dayan, with all due respect, presented the public with that issue in the last elections. He made it his banner, with a capital letter, and received two seats -- in fact one and 1/2 seats -- and we received 48 seats with our program to conduct negotiations, to reach an agreement on autonomy. So why should I accept that idea from Mr Dayan? I do not accept it.

[Question] Do you not fear the negative phenomena that accompany our control in Judaea and Samaria? I am speaking, for example, of a decision published this week by the judge from the main labor court about work conditions for employed people....

[Answer] I am very sorry to read this, I am really against such a phenomenon, both in the Jewish and the Arab sectors. There must be a different attitude and, in my view, the judge was right, in the substance of the matter, too. We will certainly try to correct this. We have done a great deal to correct things.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister: We are conducting this interview on the eve of New Year, which is also the day of judgment, and I wanted to ask you if you could express yourself about your soul-searching on this eve of the New Year.

[Answer] Well, everyone's soul-searching is connected with the knowledge that he has made some mistakes. I am no exception and I do not think that the government would claim that it is an exception and made no mistakes. Of course it did, but, in general, I think that we served our people and our country faithfully and devotedly and also with wisdom. Israel's political and security status has recently been made much stronger. I am not only referring to an agreement in principle about the establishment of security-strategic cooperation with the power named the United States of America. Of course this is an important achievement. But, perhaps influenced by this positive change, our status has been strengthened in many countries, our political and security status.

There is no doubt that there will be a change for the better in relations between France and the State of Israel. There is no doubt of this. You would be surprised if I were to tell you what country is buying certain tools from us, and openly, but I prefer not to mention its name. I think that many countries that severed diplomatic relations with us are already preparing -- in the not too distant future -- to renew them.

Therefore, there is good hope for the future and it is against this background that I would like to wish all the citizens of Israel and their families and, altogether, all the Jewish people, in the homeland and in the Diaspora, a good and blessed New Year, a year of progress, a year of peace, a year of love of Israel.

ARIDOR INTERVIEWED AFTER MEETING WITH HAIG

TA261002 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 26 Sep 81

[Text] Finance Minister Yoram Aridor met with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and asked him to convert a loan Israel has received, worth some hundred million dollars, into a grant in order to cover the cost of the construction of the two new airfields, necessitated as a result of the pullback from the Sinai. The U.S. secretary of state did not give a practical answer to this request. Our correspondent in New York, Dan Raviv, talked with Minister Aridor:

[Begin videotape] [Question] What, in fact are the Israeli demands of the United States?

[Answer] We have submitted a request for economic and defense aid worth, all in all, approximately $3 billion. We similarly wish to improve the economic relations with the United States and encourage them. I came to the United States to deal with these two issues.

[Question] You must be aware of the current difficulties which the U.S. Administration is facing in regard to the budget. If we do not get all the sum in its entirety, how critical would that be for the Israeli economy?

[Answer] Israel has been doing everything it can to take from itself: We have cut the budgets of the government ministries and we have implemented the remaining correct economic steps. We have totally abolished subsidies for fuel. I explained to representatives of the U.S. Administration and Congress that we are doing everything possible. At the same time, our difficulties stem primarily from our huge defense expenditure, and since the United States is interested in a militarily strong Israel -- so I explained to the U.S. Representatives -- that is why our requests are justified. I provided all the reasons one could raise to justify these requests.

[Question] Previous U.S. reports leveled rather large criticism of earlier Israeli economic policy. On meeting the Americans now, have you encountered demands about what should be done, what ought to be done and what can be done with the Israeli economy?

[Answer] I discovered a lot of interest in Israel's economic policy. We talked extensively about the common guidelines between the U.S. and Israeli economic policies -- allowing for the immense differences in their sizes, I would like to say that the U.S. interest in the Israeli economic policy was positive and no criticism was voiced of what we are doing. [end videotape]

POST: REPORT ON ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OUTLOOK

TA280556 Jerusalem POST in English 28 Sep 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] The government is entering upon the New Year 5742 with the distinct feeling that things are looking up for Israel in the international arena. "An unprecedented period of diplomatic momentum and progress," was how one key minister described the state of the nation after a Cabinet meeting yesterday devoted largely to foreign policy issues.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's surprise meeting with Russia's, Andrey Gromyko last Thursday [24 Sep] is seen as symbolizing increased international recognition of Israel's strength. Shamir is understood to have meetings scheduled in New York with other statesmen from countries with which Israel has no diplomatic relations.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin told TV interviewers yesterday that some of these countries may soon re-establish their ties with Israel. The full interview will be screened on Israel TV tonight. Informed sources said Begin was expressing not merely hopeful optimism, but a political assessment based on solid foundations.

Among recent foreign policy successes, government sources list the Alexandria summit with President as-Sadat, the Washington summit with its announcement of "strategic cooperation," the resumption of the autonomy talks, the scheduling of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit here, burgeoning ties with several Latin American countries, and the Shamir-Gromyko meeting.

These government sources set President Reagan's election as the turning point for Israel's international fortunes. They say there was virtually no one in the Israeli Government who hoped for Jimmy Carter's re-election, because they felt that would bring intense pressure on Israel over the Palestinian issue.

(Israel was so careful to avoid showing its preference that it was accused during the election campaign of actively backing Carter).

The election of Mitterrand in France was another welcome development for Israel. An ongoing, high-level dialogue between the two countries has already been established -- only last week, Begin met Mitterrand's aid Jacques Attali in Jerusalem and Shamir conferred with Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson in New York. The tenor of that dialogue is "very different," say government sources, from the infrequent contacts between Israel and the Giscard d'Estaing government in France.

Government sources maintain that the bombing of the Iraqi reactor (on June 7), and of the PLO offices in Beirut (in July), both actions that caused international opprobrium at the time, turn out to have boosted Israel's international standing. The outrage and indignation proved to be transient, while the lasting impression was one of respect and even admiration for Israel's military strength and its determination to use that strength when necessary.

The air raid on Iraq -- a "strategic comging" in terms of distance and complexity -- may well have strengthened the U.S. Administration's resolve to offer Israel strategic partnership in this part of the world, one key minister surmised.

Foreign Minister Shamir has heard outright praise for the precision and power of that action -- from statesmen who in their public reactions expressed exactly the contrary sentiments. Government sources reject out of hand the notion that the bombing raids on Baghdad and Beirut may have promoted foreign governments to seek closer dialogue with Israel out of fear that Israel's continued isolation might lead it to do similar acts of violent desperation in the future.

Regarding the AWACS deal, which places Israel in something of a cleft stick situation, the government sources are confident that whatever backlash there is against Israel from the U.S. Administration -- it will not last long, the "strategic cooperation" may be held up a month or two, but no more than that -- because may be held up a month or two, but no more than that -- because ultimately it is in the interests of the U.S. "at least as much as in our interests," said the key minister here. "After all, whom are they going to rely on in the long run -- Kuwait? Abu Dhabi?"

That same confidence regarding the Reagan administration's basic attitude seems to permeate the Israel Government's expectations in the autonomy talks. For the moment, say government sources, Washington still has not formulated its position. But these are unlikely to support "far-reaching Egyptian position," the Israel sources predict. An meanwhile Israel has taken the initiative in respect of the autonomy, with Defense Minister Sharon's new policies in the areas focusing interest and attention both around the negotiating table, and further afield.

The Cabinet began a discussion yesterday of Sharon's plan to reorganize the administration of the areas, limiting the army to defense-and security-related matters and putting civilian administration in the hands of civilians -- mainly Palestinian civilians. Premier Begin opened the debate by praising the plan and announcing his own full endorsement of it. Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or said the Cabinet's approval, next Sunday, was a foregone conclusion.

There are some questions as to what extent the plan really represents a new departure. But all the ministers seem convinced that the basic thrust is sound and that it can help engender and atmosphere of less tension in the areas and greater readiness to reconsider the blanket rejection of the autonomy scheme.

One country not yet affected by the general upswing in Israel foreign relations is Great Britain. Shamir's meeting in New York with Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington was neither warm nor friendly, to judge by reports reaching Jerusalem. An Israel source described Carrington as "impatient, undiplomatic." The source said Carrington had not given Shamir a reasonable opportunity to present Israel's viewpoint. At the same time, the British minister had been "extremely forceful" in his own presentation.

Shamir, on the other hand, has had some heartwarming contacts with Latin-American statesmen. Government sources say bilateral relations between Israel and several South American states are flourishing -- even though this is usually not reflected in UN votes.

LIBYA

500 MORE ARRESTED IN SUDAN IN RECENT CRACKDOWN

LD281036 Tripoli JANA in English 0927 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Sep (JANA)--More Sudanese people were arrested yesterday in the campaign of terror and repression launched by Sudan's Numayri. Over 500 people have been arrested in the last 48 hours, most of them from the popular leaderships of various opposition fronts, making the number of people arrested reach a record of 13,000, reflecting the regime's fascism and its bloody tendency.

Large amounts of arms and ammunition were found when police and army raided several houses in Khartoum, the second find since the state of emergency. All Sudanese and foreigners living outside Khartoum were banned to enter the capital except by special official permits. The SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY, now supervised by Numayri, did not give any explanation on the reasons behind applying those new measures.

COMMUNIQUE ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S ROMANIA VISIT

For Tripoli JANA text of the communique released and Bucharest media reportage of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's visti to Romania, see the Romania section of the 29 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

MOROCCO

TEXT OF KING HASSAN'S LETTER TO OAU PRESIDENT

LD261324 Rabat MAP in English 1244 GMT 26 Sep 81

[Text] Rabat, 26 Sep (MAP)--King Hassan II of Morocco addressed to Mr Arap Moi, president of Kenya and acting chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the following message:

"Mr President: While Your Excellency began with the United Nations Secretary General conversations aimed at precising the assistance that the organization might grant to the implementation committee for the carrying out of the resolution that was adopted in Nairobi on August 25, we do not find it vain to recall some of the observations we had presented to the committee during the Nairobi meeting.

"As we had affirmed it to the committee, we shall spare no effort to facilitate, in the context of [word indistinct] sovereignty, the holding of the planned consultation which is to re-establish peace in the Western Sahara region.

"The Moroccan authorities will, in particular, grant all necessary assistance for the impartial organizing of the referendum stipulated in pertinent paragraphs of the resolution. In this regard, we shall give appropriate instructions to civil and military authorities with whom the temporary administration, whose sole task is to ensure the organizing of the referendum, will have to collaborate with. It equally goes without saying that the vote will be open not only to the persons inscribed on the list of the Spanish 1974 census, but also to the persons who should have been inscribed but who were not because they had fled the repression of the [word indistinct] power.

"Documents of the high commissioner for refugees can be of some use to determine some categories of refugees, but they can by no means constitute a proof of nationality. On the other hand, population growth will be taken into consideration because all the voters who will have reached voting age at the moment of the referendum were necessarily born in 1974.

"Concerning the wording of the question to be asked, it is clear that it will be worded in terms that conform Islamic public law; regarding in particular the integration to Morocco, the wording cannot ignore the essential concept of allegiance whose impact was recognized by the International Court of Justice in 1975.

"You will undoubtedly realize that the cessation of combat is necessary so that the referendum take place in a sincere, unbiased, and objective way. We remain hopeful that the Algerian and Mauritanian brothers will consent to participate in the necessary negotiations. (?Having) appreciated the personal part that Your Excellency has played at the two Nairobi meetings, we think that no one knows better than you how to encourage these negotiations. We earnestly hope that you would endeavor in this respect with all the authority bestowed on you by our (?country)."

SUDAN

DEBT RESCHEDULING NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR FAIL

JN281202 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Sep (INA) -- Soviet and Sudanese economic delegations have failed to reach agreement on the rescheduling of Sudanese debts to the Soviet Union. Informed sources have told the INA correspondent in Khartoum that the Soviet delegation left for home yesterday hoping to broach the subject again later this year. The sources added that the Soviet side had requested drafting a forumla for rescheduling the debts, which amount to more than $20 million and are more than 10 years old.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED IN BRUSSELS

JN281937 Khartoum SUNA in English 1800 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Brussels, 28 Sep (SUNA)--Sudan renewed its denunciation of African states position in the latest OAU summit towards the Libyan invasion of Chad which is an OAU member.

Sudan stressed that Libyan intervention in Chad is a violation of international principles and conventions and the OAU Charter. Besides it has multiplied the size of tension in that state which suffers from civil war.

In an interview with the Belgian magazine (SPECIAL L'AVANTAIL), Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mitghani Mubarak said the Libyans, by their invasion of Chad, had done the worst action to be done in the history of the OAU. Mirghani also affirmed that Libya would continue her occupation of the Chadi territories for OAU member states remain silent towards that invasion.

Mirghani stated that Sudan sees obviously that Libya had interfered flagrantly in the Chadian internal affairs. This intervention as it was seen by Sudan was not aimed at the stability Chad but simply Libya want to occupy the Chadian territories. Mirghani said that the Libya presence in Chad was odd internationally and was contradictory to peace in that country. The Sudanese foreign minister indicated that the only way for stability in Chad is the engagement to the (OAU) two agreements of Lagos. These two agreements treated realistically the national unity of Chad, Mirghani said.

He added that when the Chadian people be able to select their government through elections, they will be able to realize peace and stability for their country.

Concerning the forthcoming OAU summit in Tripoli, Libya, Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak said that confidence in OAU is going to be lost if the summit held there. Some African countries pretended to be wise for not deteriorating its relations with Libya and thought that this will be a means to press Libya to withdraw its forces from Chad, Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak added.

The Sudanese foreign minister stated that Sudan's position was clear towards Libyan presence in Chad, but what was painful is that some African countries change their position for a reason or another.

Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak claimed that the Libyan intervention in Chad constitutes a continuous danger not only to Sudan but all Chad neighbour countries. The Libyans are now constructing military airports about 20 to 30 km from the Sudanese border with Chad. They shelled some Sudanese areas on the border but it wasn't of great importance to us because these areas had already been abandoned for security status, the Foreign Ministery said.

On Sudan's readiness to defend its territories, Mohammad Mirghani Mubarak proclaimed that Sudan had taken all necessary measures to face any expected offensive Libyan action without the OAU because it is no more able to do something as he said.

He denied any Sudanese aids to any of Chadian fronts and justified this as against Sudanese principles which refused any foreign intervention in other countries internal affairs. We are one of the most opponent countries to Chad civil-war because we also suffer from it when we host more than 2 million Chadian refugees in Sudan who are the victims of both the Libyan and Soviet invasion of Chad, he said.

Muhammad Mirghani indicated that the Soviets exploit Al-Qadhdhafi's aspirations in Chad and supply Libya with arms and advisers. He appealed to European countries to impose political pressures against this intervention. He asked about a unified European position over Soviet intervention in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan and Chad.

Minister Muhammad Mirghani went on saying to Belgian magazine (SPECIAL L'AVANTAIL) that Libya had violated the international and African charters aiming at deteriorating the situation. Basing on this, the foreign minister said, and according to the Nairobi recent African summit conference of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Sudan appreciates that the conference could not reach the right resolution that must be adopted towards the military invasion to a member state in the (OAU) -- besides it had not embodied or expressed the real points of view.

The minister further said that Sudan also appreciates the necessity of practising political pressure by Africa on Libya to withdraw from Chad. He also added that Libya had put the African Continent in the bottle neck in spite of that. It claimed complete calm was achieved. The foreign minister indicated that Sudan has comprehensively known that invasion as a beginning of tremendous eruption and that what was (?practically) proved. The minister called through the magazine all the European countries to be aware of the Soviet-backed Libyan play in Chad. He said that Sudan, when speaking about the Soviet-Libyan threat to the area, is speaking about a reality represented by the Libyan invasion to an African country.

Mirghani pointed to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's African-Arab-international tense relations saying that ten African countries had severed their relations with him for his interference in their internal affairs. Other seven Arab countries severed relations with Al-Qadhdhafi for his bad behaviour.

Answering to a question on the Sudanese relations with the new U.S. Administration, Mohammad Mirghani confirmed that these relations were developing. Mirghani indicated that U.S. and other countries should exert all efforts to support Sudan for the importance of his role in the area and for his resistence to the anti-current in the African Continent. If Sudan fails to realize that, the map of Africa will be changed, Mirghani confirmed.

The minister added that Sudan is now able to play a role outside his territories because of the national unity and integrity of its territories. For these reasons Sudan is always trying to consolidate relations with neighboring countries (Ethiopia, Zaire, Sudan) on one side, and Sudan, Uganda, Zaire on the other side.

Mirghani concluded that Sudan believed that tractors serve the peoples more than tanks and guns.

SOMALIA

OFFICIAL VIEWS ETHIOPIAN ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT

EA281916 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 28 Sep 81

[Text] Challe Ahmad Mahdi Farah, the regional Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party secretary of Gedo region, has said that the recent unprovoked artillery attacks by Abyssinian forces in Bele Hawo and nearby villages are a clear demonstation of the continued Abyssinian policy of perpetuating tension and hostilities in the Horn of Africa. Challe Ahmad Mahdi Farah told a Somali News Agency reporter at Bele Hawo last night that the border areas of Somali, Kenya and the Abyssinian-occupied territory of western Somalia.

He added that it was only recently that administrators from the Bele Hawo district of Somali and the Mandera district of Kenya held talks at Bele Hawo to curb the lawlessness along the Somali-Kenyan border. A joint program to fight bandits had been worked out there. Therefore, the Abyssinian artillery attacks on Bele Hawo are aimed at torpedoing such collaboration between Somali and Kenya by creating tension and friction on the Somali-Kenyan border.

Challe Ahmad Mahdi Farah added that the diplomatic and military muscle which Abyssinia receives from Russia and Russian bootlickers will never succeed in damaging the policies of the governments and peoples of Somalia and Kenya of achieving faster development for their peoples on their common border through neighborliness and peaceful collaboration.

UGANDA

PRIME MINISTER DEPARTS FOR COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT

EA261926 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Sep 81

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Otema Alimadi, has left for Australia to represent President Milton Obote at the Commonwealth heads of state and government conference in Australia.

Mr Otema Alimadi is leading a 12-man delegation which includes the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Albert Picho Onwiny; the minister without portfolio who is also Uganda's high commission in London, Mr Shafiq Arain; Uganda's high commissioner to India, Mr Gurdial Singh; Uganda's high commission to Australia, Prof Kibuka Musoke; and the permanent secretary in the president's office, Mr Henry Barlow.

MUWANGA ADMITS LACK OF DISCIPLINE AMONG TROOPS

AB280949 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT 27 Sep 81

[Text] Kampala, 27 Sep (AFP) -- Ugandan Vice-President and Defence Minister Paulo Muwanga conceded at a news conference here last week: We are having problems with the Bombo and Kampala battalions. With that he broke the official silence over recent violent incidents involving the army around the capital, and went on to make some startling admissions.

In a nutshell, he agreed during the two-hour conference that there were some soldiers in the army who did not support the 10-month old administration of President Milton Obote. There was indiscipline in the army, Mr Muwanga said, especially in the strategically-placed Bombo and Kampala batallions.

He also confessed that he lacked officers to discipline the men and that troops were sometimes overworked or left unfed while on duty due to mismanagement.

According to Mr Muwanga, the army chief himself, Brigadier Oyite Ojok was recently forced to hand over 5,000 shillings (65 dollars) to soldiers at a road block outside Kampala who apparently did not know who he was.

I am not ready to defend indiscipline and misconduct in the army, Mr Muwanga said, adding: There are some very bad elements in the forces and these things will continue.

Over 1,000 soldiers were behind bars for misconduct while scores of others ranging from lieutenant-colonels downwards had been sacked from the army, Mr Muwanga said. But he notably made no promise that the large-scale military operations dreaded by the civilian population, such as those at Wakiso, Matuka and Kawanda earlier this month following anti-government guerrilla attacks, would not be carried out in the future. The retaliatory measures in those areas, which resulted in a civilian death toll of over 70, with many wounded and much looting of homes, were carried out by the Kampala and Bombo batallions. Mr Muwanga said he had taken the overall commander of the two batallions, Colonel Bazilio Okello, to eastern Uganda last week to show him how disciplined the eastern batallions were.

According to the defence minister, the only remaining areas of anti-government guerrilla activity are those in and around Kampala, with pockets in Semutro, Kawanda, Kakooke forest, Kisweera and Gegette. The last crackdown on bandits will be on Kampala and it will be tough, he warned.

Mr Muwanga maintained that the guerrilla forces could go on hitting at government installations and carrying out assassinations, but that they could not overthrow the government. He said he had ordered the start of a crash military training programme for staunch supporters of Mr Obote's party, the Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC), three months ago, and that he could now call upon 200,000 for battle. I recruited only diehards, not just humble UPC supporters, he said.

He said he could also count on the support of friendly countries like Tanzania, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Tanzanian army trainers and [words indistinct] Uganda to re-train and pass out personnel for the next few months, while Uganda army officers were being trained in Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan and the United States, he said.

Mr Muwanga also criticised the government-owned media in Uganda for being too docile and of being over-protective towards the government, while at the same time attacking the foreign press for adverse reporting about the authorities in Uganda.

COMMITTEE SET UP TO MONITOR SECURITY SITUATION

EA251838 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Sep 81

[Text] A committee composed of 13 persons has been set up to monitor and review the security situation in the country. This was agreed at a meeting held yesterday in Kampala between the president, government ministers, leaders of the Democratic Party and religious leaders, (?including) the Muslim Supreme Council, the Catholic church, the Church of Uganda and Orthodox church. The government will appoint three ministers on the committee and the other institutions will each appoint two members. The committee will report from time to time all matters affecting security at a joint meeting composed of the president, religious leaders and the leader of the opposition.

The meeting, which lasted for over 4 hours, identified causes of insecurity and also discussed measures which should be taken not only by the government but also by the citizens at large for the improvement of security for all.